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The Playground

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AUGUST, 1928

Play Days for Industrial Girls

X Developments in Brooklyn; Union County, N. J.; Minneapolis;
Pittsburgh; Salem, Mass.; the State of Alabama

The Use of Leisure in Dramatic Activities and in Old American
Folk Dances

Growth of Adult Education

In Between Seasons' Programs

Recreation Congress, Atlantic City, N. J., October 1-6

VOLUME XXII, NO. 5

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The Playground

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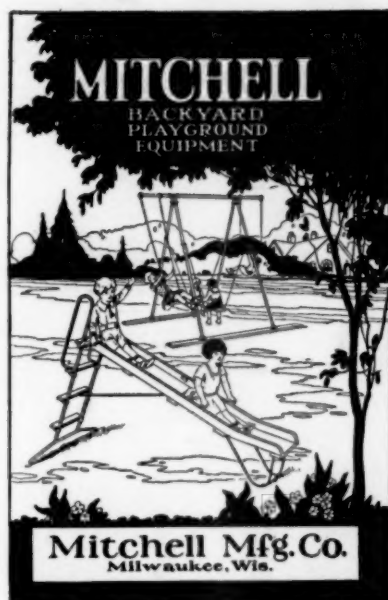
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The Playground

VOL. XXII, No. 5

AUGUST, 1928

The World at Play

New Gymnasium—The Board of Education at Steelton, Pa., has had a one-quarter million dollar addition to their High School Building, which includes one of the finest and best equipped gymnasiums and auditoriums in the country. Both the gymnasium and auditorium have entrances aside from the regular school entrance so that they may be used by the community.

It is their plan to employ a man on a year-round basis for Physical Education work in the winter and for playground and community work in the summer.

Marble Tournament—The 1928 Pennsylvania State Marble Championship Tournament was held in Bethlehem, Pa., on Saturday, June 2nd. Last year, 72,000 boys took part in the local marble contests throughout the state. It is expected that over 100,000 boys will be contestants this year.

Boys' Fun Night—Some 250 boys had the time of their young lives at the Boys' Fun Night conducted by the Moorestown Community House. All kinds of games were played and there were refreshments. Stunts were staged and relay races provided keen competition.

The big event of the evening was a push-ball contest. The huge ball stands higher than most of the boys who participated and it was a rare sight to see 250 boys push the ball towards its goal.

There was a fine talk given on sportsmanship.

The committee reports that this is to be a frequent activity.

To arouse more interest in swimming, the Moorestown Community House Association organized a swimming committee composed of people active in swimming and also active in community affairs. They outlined a swimming program and schedule, arranged swimming meets, swimming parties, membership campaigns, exhibitions, and secured a large list of games to be

played in the water. The result of this committee organization has increased tremendously the popularity of swimming and the pool is now easily paying for its upkeep.

Three or four times a year, the Moorestown Community House Association has a song festival. The object is to provide entertainment to clubs and to serve as an instruction class to leaders. The last program consisted of group singing, a talk on the selection of songs, by a person from the Victor Talking Machine, and a demonstration of song leadership, by a local music instructor.

These song festivals are very popular.

Recreation in a School for the Blind—The children at the Tennessee School for the Blind at Nashville enjoy an active program of indoor and outdoor play.

"Every child," writes I. S. Wampler, Superintendent, "is expected to take at least one period in recreation either indoor or outdoor. In bad weather the children are taken to the gymnasium, where they have marching exercises, dancing, drill with dumb-bells or wands, or they are expected to use the horizontal bars, chest weights, parallel bars, flying rings, and spring boards and to do rope climbing.

"When the weather permits, our children take part in races, rope climbing, shot put and similar sports, and we have three drawn parallel cables with rings on them for the guidance of the totally blind. We also have such outdoor equipment as swings, merry-go-rounds and slides. The children go hiking and engage in such ball games as basketball and cage ball."

Boys' Day in Recreation—"Boys' Day in Recreation" was the "big day" of the Boys' Week celebration in Los Angeles. There were seven different types of activities enlisting the interests of hundreds of boys and their dads.

Beginning at nine o'clock in the morning, a miniature airplane meet was held at Hawley Junior Airport and many young aeronautic enthusiasts were entered. This was followed at 12:30 by a bicycle meet at Manchester Playground in which thirteen special races for junior and senior boys were run off. These included both bicycles and motor-bikes in the list of competitive events. At 1:30 the big city-wide playground final meet in the Junior Olympics was held at Echo Playground. A swimming meet was also held in the afternoon at Griffith Municipal Pool. At the same time throughout the day the Boy Scouts held their Camp Field Day and the Western Ranger Division of the Woodcraft League of America held its annual festival. The eventful day ended with a big roller skating carnival held in the evening at Ross Snyder Playground tennis courts.

Boys' Day in Recreation was arranged by a committee consisting of George Hjelt, superintendent of the Playground and Recreation Department, and C. L. Glenn, president of the Physical Education Department of the city schools.

An Awards Rally—On April 18th the New Haven, Connecticut, Board of Recreation held its second annual winter activities awards rally when trophies were presented for those participating in the winter carnival in basketball, hockey leagues and free throw tournaments. The program consisted of addresses by the chairman of the Board, the mayor of the city and Yale's baseball coach, the awarding of the trophies and an entertainment program. Moving pictures of athletic events were shown.

Cleveland's Annual Community Center Frolic—On April 25th the community centers maintained by the Board of Education held their third annual frolic. It was literally a five ring circus. While the jazz carnival, in which twelve orchestras took part, was conducted on the stage of the public auditorium, a men's gymnasium drill was going on at the South End, an indoor baseball game for men in the middle, wrestling and boxing in the arena and golf demonstration at the north end. The frolic program issued by the Division of Community Centers Playground contains attractive pictures showing the various activities at the center.

Boy Life in Lakewood—The Committee of Citizens of Lakewood, Ohio, in charge of pro-

moting National Boys' Week, April 28 to May 5, issued a very attractive booklet telling of the activities of the various organizations promoting boy life. Through the courtesy of George E. Bickford, the Association has received a number of copies which it will be glad to distribute to people requesting them.

National Music Week in York—National Music Week was celebrated in York, Pa., with a program which reached large audiences. A Music Week Committee appointed by the Recreation Commission has charge of the program. Ten musical events were scheduled including concerts by a chorus of 300 voices from the pageant chorus, by the little symphony orchestra, by Civic Opera Company members, by the Women's Club and a girls' chorus of 110 voices. One night was known as Children's Night. The week closed with the oratorio, "The Seven Last Words of Christ."

Music in Orange County, Florida—On May 6, 7 and 8, Orange County, Florida, held its first annual music festival. The participants included the Festival Chorus, the Orange County Symphony Orchestra and the Children's Symphony Orchestra. There were a number of assisting artists. Thomas G. Lantz, Superintendent of Recreation in Orlando, served as executive of the Orlando Observance of Music Week, which began on Sunday, May 6, with special music in the churches and ended on May 13 with a massed band concert at the Municipal Auditorium.

Music Week in Cedar Rapids—"Home Sing" Night was one of the features of National Music Week held under the auspices of the Cedar Rapids Playground, the Beethoven club and the Music Department of the Women's Club. On "Home Sing" Night a group of local singers directed by Mrs. Clare Nichols of the Commission sang from a local radio station and all those tuning in were asked to join in singing in their homes. Many old favorites were sung.

A novel event on the program was the special radio musical program featuring numbers by the harmonica band and the drum and bugle corps.

Bathing in Safety—The Fourth Annual Report of the Bureau of Recreation, Evanston, Illinois, states that 526,338 people used the beaches under the supervision of the Bureau without a single drowning. "This fact," states the report,

"bears out the efficiency of the work of our life-guards and our volunteer corps of twenty-seven junior life guards."

Five Years Old—An increased attendance of 96,632 over 1926 is the 1927 record of the Division of Recreation, Department of Public Welfare, Pontiac, Michigan, which has just issued its fifth report. Seventy-one thousand two hundred and seventy of this total represented attendance at the fifteen new activities introduced during the past year, while 25,362 more people patronized the old activities than attended in 1927.

A New Reservation in Cohasset—Benjamin D. Hyde has presented to the Federation of Bird Clubs of New England a tract of land at Cohasset, Massachusetts, to be maintained as a wild life reservation. The property will be placed under the custodianship of the South Shore Nature Club, one of the groups affiliated with the Federation. On this reservation there is a very fine stand of old hemlocks which Mr. Hyde's father purchased many years ago and in whose memory it will be preserved.

Cambridge Has a New Recreation Center—Cambridge, Massachusetts, has three buildings erected for recreation purposes. The first cost \$25,000, the second \$70,000 and the third which will soon be completed will cost \$85,000.

The new building, which is especially well equipped, contains a combination gymnasium and auditorium, with an improved ventilating system and superior lighting, and two large recreation rooms, one for men, the other for women. Separate locker rooms and dressing rooms have been provided for both girls and women and the same arrangement has been made for both men and boys. Dressing and shower rooms have been provided for visitors and there is a special squash and handball room. There are also rooms for domestic science classes and similar activities. The field which is adjacent to the building covers five acres and will be made still larger next year. It contains two baseball fields, bleachers, four tennis courts which may be increased to twelve and a separate children's playground. There is an attractive landscaped park providing rest and shade.

New Recreation Centers—A bond issue of \$245,000 will make it possible for the Detroit Recreation Department to develop another recreation

center. With the funds now available additional land will be purchased, the old Ginsburg Library will be remodeled as an auditorium and a new gymnasium and swimming pool will be built. This center is located in the heart of the colored district and colored leadership will be provided.

Several years ago the city of Columbus, Ohio, acquired a block of about seven acres, approximately half of which was built on. All the buildings were torn down with the exception of a two-story brick building. Last year a bond issue of \$40,000 was passed to remodel the building and build an addition with a gymnasium. This will be opened in the fall as a center for colored citizens with a full time colored staff in charge.

Dedicating the Community Christmas Tree—Elaborate ceremonies attended the dedication of the living Community Christmas tree which the Lions' Club of Nashua, N. H., planted last winter on the lawn of the public library. The dedication took place on April 27th. The ceremonies began with a parade, in which the mayor, members of the Lions' Club, Boy Scouts and a live lion took part. The program consisted of music and addresses of presentation and acceptance.

Park Developments in Rhode Island—The Metropolitan Park Commission of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations in its twenty-fourth annual report submitted to the General Assembly at the January, 1928, session, told of two tracts of land, conveyed for park purposes and accepted on behalf of the state. One tract consists of 472 acres given by Marquise d'Andigne and R. H. I. Goddard at Potowomut, Warwick, R. I. The second tract of nine acres in Cranston is the gift of former members of Troop C of the Rhode Island National Guard. Careful study has been given the property to determine the advisability of providing bathing beaches, park ways, drives, camping sites and other outdoor attractions for the people of the state.

A New Type of Shelter House—The Park Board of Fort Worth has adopted for use in the parks and neighborhood playgrounds of the city a new type of building which combines shelter house, comfort station and little theatre. The building shown in the picture has been in use for about one year and a half, and has been the means of stimulating a great deal of dramatic activity



LITTLE THEATRE, FT. WORTH, TEXAS
Combined Shelter House and Comfort Station

among the children and young people of the neighborhood, where it is located. It is proposed to erect all future shelter houses and comfort stations with this little theatre feature so that every neighborhood provided with a playground or neighborhood play park will have a theatre.

A Park Their Front Yard—A fifteen-acre park owned and maintained by the State of Illinois forms the front yard of a cooperative apartment subdivision near the northern city limits of Chicago. The park will never be relinquished, says the *National Real Estate Journal*, but will preserve for all time the suburban atmosphere of the development. Beautifully landscaped, it has a crescent-shaped lake in its center, a wading pool for children and walks, trees and shrubbery.

Four large apartment buildings containing a total of 192 cooperative homes have already been built and three more are planned. Each building is owned by a separate corporation which sells the apartments. The owners and builders are the firm of Gubbins, McDonnell and Blietz.

A Manual of Physical Education for Rural Schools—The State Board of Education of West Virginia has issued a new edition of its manual of Physical Education for Rural Schools prepared by Melville Stewart, Supervisor of Physical Education. In addition to material on posture and health there are suggestions on rhythmic plays, folk plays, dancing steps, games, contests, stunts and athletic badge tests. A very helpful section is that dealing with field days. There is a chapter on homemade apparatus containing much valuable material.

Miniature Airplane Contests in Los Angeles.—Enthusiasm over miniature airplanes has reached a high point in Los Angeles following the dedication at Hawley Municipal Playground of the new junior airport. Several outlying sections of the city have requested the Playground and Recreation Department to furnish miniature ports in these districts and a number of department stores are featuring the small craft in window and interior displays.

Among several early tournaments to be held is one being arranged by the West Coast theaters and a committee of the California State Federation of Women's Clubs, with the Playground Department cooperating. Boys attending children's matinees in Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Ontario, Riverside and as far away as El Centro and San Diego are to enter plans and those judged acceptable from each theater will be flown in a monster competition to be held at Hawley port about April 15. It is anticipated that nearly eight hundred boys will participate.

Sixth Report of the Miners' Welfare Fund of Great Britain.—The 1927 Report of the Miners' Welfare Fund tells of the recreation development made possible throughout Great Britain through the allocation for recreation. Many new facilities, both indoor and out, have been secured. One project, the recreation ground at Horden, is likely to be one of the most important in the country. Twenty acres have been secured at a cost of £3,100. This includes a reservoir which is to be converted into an open air swimming pool and in addition there will be a park section with band stands, a dancing area, an adult section comprising three bowling greens, eight tennis courts, a putting course, club house and lodge, a large area for children and young people, and a full size cricket and football grounds with grandstand accommodations. The entire development will, it is estimated, cost approximately £15,000.

Summer Camps for Berkeley Citizens.—The Recreation Department of Berkeley, California, announces three summer camps, designed to provide for the citizens of Berkeley an enjoyable vacation at as near cost as possible, with good service, wholesome food and attractive surroundings. It will be possible at these camps to secure fourteen days' outing for \$26.52, including transportation, board and lodging.

In Fort Myers, Florida.—An eighteen hole golf course, a combined community house and auditorium, an outdoor auditorium for athletics and similar activities, a swimming pool, tennis courts, roque courts, shuffle board, horseshoe pitching courts and a recreation pier represent the facilities acquired by Fort Myers, through the efforts of the Recreation Board. A year ago none of these facilities were available. Under the leadership of the Recreation Board and the Chamber of Commerce, the children of Fort Myers had an important part in the celebration of Thomas Edison's eighty-first birthday. This took the form of a series of pantomimes portraying Mr. Edison's contributions to civilization.

What About Picnic Prizes?—C. H. English, Executive Secretary of the Playgrounds Association of Philadelphia, has raised the following question:

"The almost universal use of the picnic kit in our cities brings forth an important question. How many Recreation Executives are advising Picnic Committees as to the kind of prizes to be given the winners? This applies particularly to merchandise. Can we not render a real service in advising them as to the proper and appropriate prizes to get? I know of one case where a \$20 gold watch was given to the winner of each event. Has anyone in the field worked out a list of merchandise prizes to suggest to committees, developing the type of prizes for each age group, which is usually found at a general picnic. Personally I would like to know of such a plan, as it would help me in Philadelphia."

Have recreation executives any suggestions to offer?

A Camp for Mothers.—To give mothers a real vacation is the objective of the Westchester County Commission in the establishment of its camp for mothers to be opened during July and August, 1928. Any mother in Westchester County may use the camp, and she may bring with her one or two children under nine and over two years of age. Mothers, however, are to have no care of their children, who will at all times be under the supervision of a recreation director and a nurse. In order to secure the benefit of a complete rest, mothers are requested to leave all matters of program and discipline of the children to the camp director.

The old Teller Mansion has been remodeled to

accommodate 50 mothers and 50 children. There are separate dining rooms and dormitories for the mothers and children, wide screened verandas and a recreation room for mothers, and a fenced playground and indoor playroom for children.

Rates will be \$3.50 per week for children under five; \$6.50 for older children and for adults.

Soccer Popular with Boston Boys.—Six thousand two hundred and ninety boys of the seventh, eighth and ninth grades of the Boston schools, played soccer football in the fall season of 1926. From this number, four hundred and twenty-nine teams were organized, and 1261 certificates awarded to the members of the winning teams. The last game of the surviving teams was played on the Boston Common. Two thousand or more children with their school banners, cheering sections and band watched this game. Yes, mass participation is possible and has come to stay.

Additional figures of interest are: 15,519 participated in baseball, 4,807 in track, a total of 20,326 individuals in 1420 teams.

Volley Ball Leagues for Industrial Girls.—The Public Recreation Commission of Cincinnati, Ohio, has organized a volley ball league for girls in business, commercial and industrial concerns. Last season, the first year, there were eight teams entered; this year, sixteen. In a recent meeting the teams present subscribed to the following objective of the Women's Division of the N. A. A. F.

"That girls and women shall take part in athletics, games and sports for the love of exercise and recreation for itself, not for personal or institutional prestige, not for reward or glory, but for the fun of participation."

In April a Play Night was arranged for the girls in the volley ball league and in May the final banquet was held.

The Municipal Sketch Club of Minneapolis.—From April 14th to May 1st the annual exhibit of the Minneapolis Municipal Sketch Club was held at the Art Institute. No student was permitted to bring more than three pieces to the Park Board office for the exhibition. The requirements were that all work should be properly framed and that water colors or wood block should be glassed as well as framed. The following

schedule for April shows something of the activities of the Club:

April 7	Portrait	Any Medium
April 14	Figure Drawing	Charcoal Only
April 21	Costume Sketch	Any Medium
April 28	Cast Drawing	Charcoal or Pencil

In connection with the Sketch Club a History-Art Class has been organized to study the life and works of famous artists.

Practical Handcraft.—The boys of the Manual Training Department of the First Ward School of Charlotte, North Carolina, have made thirty-two new baby swings for the playgrounds of the city. The Park and Recreation Commission providing the necessary material.

All the World Represented.—A series of national dances from the different nations of the world was an outstanding feature of the annual gymnastic demonstration of the recreation centers of the West Chicago Park Commission. The demonstration came toward the end of the indoor gymnasium year as the culmination of the work done at the seventeen small parks and recreation centers of the West Park system.

Athletics for North Carolina High School Girls.—The Athletic Association of North Carolina High School Girls has issued a booklet entitled *Constitution and By-Laws* of the Athletic Association of North Carolina High School Girls, which contains the point system in use. The system is based on major and minor sports. The major sports include basketball, baseball, hockey, soccer, speed ball and tennis. The minor sports are track, paddle tennis, volley ball, hiking, folk dancing, swimming, golf, horseback riding and archery golf. No girl may participate in more than one major sport a season, but may engage in some of the minor sports in that season.

Basketball Shooting in Elmira.—Joseph L. Riley, Athletic Director of Elmira Community Service, reports a basketball shooting game which has been very popular among the junior players of the city. A regulation basketball is used, which is thrown into a basket ten feet above the floor having an opening 18" in diameter. The basket has a regulation size netting. From a center directly under the basket, a semi-circle is drawn with an eight foot radius. The first shot is taken from behind the foul line—15 feet directly in front of the basket—and succeeding shots from

any point outside this semi-circle, the contestant returning his own ball. If the ball is touched by any one except the contestant, the event must be started over again. The number of goals shot in sixty seconds should be recorded.

A Sports Carnival in Oakland, California.

—The Industrial Athletic Association of Greater Oakland fostered by the Recreation Department of the city recently held a sports carnival with the following program:

- 8:00 P. M.—Plant Demonstration
- 8:40 P. M.—Baseball Demonstration, Women's Teams
- 8:50 P. M.—Relays for Men
- 9:00 P. M.—Relays for Women
- 9:15 P. M.—Basketball—Women's Teams
- 9:30 P. M.—Basketball—Men's Teams
- 9:45 P. M.—Hand Polo
- 10:00 P. M.—Volley Ball—Women's Teams
- 10:15 P. M.—Men's Teams
- 10:30 P. M.—Scooter Polo.

Thirty-three industries are listed in the membership of the Industrial Athletic Association and the work has reached such proportions that a full-time worker has been employed to direct the activities. On April 1st, George Vestal, who has been doing part time work in the Department, was made director of industrial activities.

A County Play Day.—The Florida State Fair Association Grounds was the scene of the Duval County Play Day conducted by the Playground and Recreation Department of Jacksonville in cooperation with the Duval County Home Demonstration Department. A silver trophy was awarded the school winning the most points, the points being distributed as follows: 5 points for first, 3 for second and 1 for third place in all events, except spelling and music. The scoring for these two events were ten for first, seven for second and four for third place. In addition the school having the highest percentage of attendance received five points.

The program was as follows:

50 Yard Dash for Boys (One Representative from Each School)

50 Yard Dash for Girls (One Representative from Each School)

Standing Broad Jump for Boys (One Representative from Each School)

Tug of War (20 Girls on a Team from Each School)

100 Yard Dash for Boys (One Representative from Each School)

25 Yard Dash for Boys or Girls under Seven Years of Age

880 Yard Run for Boys (One Representative from Each School)

880 Yard Relay (Four Boys on a Team)

440 Yard Relay (Four Girls on a Team)

Spelling Contest (One Representative from Each School)

Music—The School Producing the Best Musical Number

Harris County, Texas, Holds a Second Band Contest.—During the month of May, Harris County will hold its second band and orchestra contest under the auspices of the Houston Recreation Department. As in the first contest, the bands will be grouped as "A" and "B." Each band will play the following:

GROUP "A" BAND

1. Optional Number
2. Largo from *New World Symphony* by Dvorak (contest number)
3. Massed numbers of all Bands—Group "A" and "B"

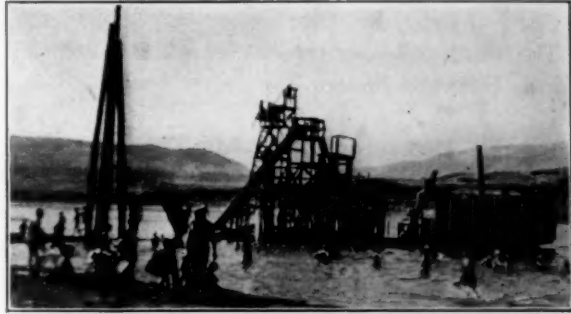
Gate City March by Weldon
The Lost Chord by Sullivan

GROUP "B" BAND

1. Optional number
2. *War March of the Priests* by Mendelssohn (contest number)
3. Massed number by all bands in groups "A" and "B"

Gate City March by Weldon
The Lost Chord by Sullivan

A Step in the Right Direction.—Chattanooga, Tennessee, takes the lead as one of the first cities of the South to extend library facilities to readers living in surrounding rural territory. For the past five years this city has served pupils, teachers and school patrons in more thickly settled sections through libraries located at county high schools. In 1926, however, an extra effort was made to bring books to local communities. The county board of control appropriates the funds to make this step possible. In approximately forty percent of the 223 counties with library service in continental U. S. such service is made possible through cooperative efforts of city and county governing boards.



THE DALLES, OREGON

The "Dalles Dip."—Not a new dance, but a swimming place is this project, the result of the efforts of a group of business men of Dalles, Oregon, who believed the community should have a place to swim. Additions to the raft were made from time to time as money was available and each year the swimming center is becoming more popular. Adults pay \$1.00 for the privilege of using the facilities for the season; children \$.50. The city provides a life guard during the two summer months. Each year a special swimming week stresses the importance of swimming instructions and the second week is devoted to teaching life saving methods.

Family Community Nights in Cedar Rapids.—Seven hundred people attended the Family Community Night held at Franklin School, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, under the auspices of the Playground Commission and there was approximately the same attendance at a similar gathering at Roosevelt School. The program consisted of amateur acts of music, dramatics, dancing and specialties.

From Drama Committee to Little Theatre.—Organized in February, 1923, by the Playground and Recreation Association of Wyoming Valley, Pennsylvania, as the "Drama and Celebration Committee," the Wilkes Barre Little Theatre is now a full grown organization meeting its own expenses on its budget of \$1,200 a year. This status of self-support has been attained through the securing of two hundred and fifty members at \$2.50 a year and twenty-seven patrons at \$20.00 a year. Three productions are given each year. The second program of the current season consisted of four one-act plays:

The Lost Silk Hat by Lord Dunsany

Trifles by Susan Glaspell

Dust of the Road by Kenneth Sawyer Goodman

The Pot Boiler by Alice Gerstenberg
The third and last production will be Sutton Vane's *Outward Bound*.

Detroit Plans for Open Air Theatre.—An organization known as the Detroit Municipal Theatre has been created in that city to further plans for an open air theatre similar to that of St. Louis. The purpose of the organization, according to H. W. Busch, commissioner of parks and boulevards, is to encourage the development of talent in local artists and musicians. The plan calls for a non-profit theatre where the best drama and civic opera may be seen. Later a free school in the different branches of art will, it is hoped, be established. In the theatre will be presented many kinds of dramatic productions, cantatas, pageants, community sings and lectures.

The first event on the program was an operatic and musical program held in one of the hotels on February 24th. Rehearsals are now under way for the summer program, which will be given in a temporary amphitheatre in Palmer Park. *Midsummer Night's Dream* will be produced, as well as two grand operas and one light opera not yet selected. The profits of the summer season will go into a fund for the erection of a permanent amphitheatre at River Rouge Park.

Drama in Evansville.—Evansville, Indiana, has a dramatic club known as the Community Players which meets the first and third Tuesday of each month in the Council Chamber of City Hall. Once a month a one-act play is given and a number of these plays have been presented before schools and churches. Among the plays which have been given in the short existence of the club are *Fashion* and *Kempe*.

The idea of recreation has been too closely associated with the idea of health. There is a very high probability that an important correlation does exist between the two, but the values of recreation extend far beyond the physiological.—WILLIAM H. JONES, Professor of Sociology in Howard University.

A red hat followed by careful working out of opportunities for suitable recreation for a young girl, according to the report of a Big Sister in New York City, proved to be the turning point in the girl's career.

Gen. Geo. W. Wingate

General George W. Wingate, who died on March 22, 1928, was one of the pioneers in the recreation movement. He was associated with Dr. Luther Halsey Gulick in the starting of the Public Schools Athletic League in 1903 and was identified with the New York City Public Schools Athletic League until the day of his death. Because Dr. Gulick helped to found the New York Public Schools Athletic League and gave up his position of executive for that organization to build up the national recreation movement, there has always been a close bond of sympathy between the New York City organization and the national association. With all the changes that have taken place in New York City in the last quarter century there has continued to be a very general appreciation of the work of the League under General Wingate's leadership.

General Wingate's leadership in the recreation movement began at a time when recreation was not so popular as it has since become. In his own lifetime he saw great changes take place. He himself had served as a soldier in the Civil War. He was an active and wise counsellor during the World War.

He himself was a sportsman, and "as a participant in the competitive sports of boxing and wrestling, as one who was both victor and vanquished in many hard fought games of tennis and golf, as a skilled fencer, a good horseman, a champion gymnast on flying rings, trapeze and parallel bars, he found and finding preached to others the joy of life which comes through good health, alert coordination of thought and action and the law that for the mind to work well and long the body must be sound and strong. As a public-spirited citizen in civic affairs his interest and influence were always with those whose aims were upright, objects proper and accomplishments worthy."

General Wingate had great capacity for hard work. Trials and difficulties were to him but a challenge, and he himself thoroughly enjoyed the work to which he gave himself so heartily.

Schools are stronger in character development than formerly, but the greatest influence on the child is outdoor organized play. All young learn by play to be led in the right direction and not told what they should not do.—ERNEST THOMPSON SETON.

Play Days for Industrial Girls

By

HELEN L. COOPS

Department of Physical Education, University of Cincinnati

Organized play for the business girl is one of the most interesting recent developments in adult community recreation. Athletic leagues springing up all over the country are a part of this expression of interest in the play program. If these athletic leagues are based on sound objectives and high standards, they are valuable. If they are allowed to degenerate into competition based on athletic exploitation and audience dictatorship, then they have no place in a recreation program. Athletic competition should be encouraged only when it is truly "play for the sake of play," and without any ulterior motive.

STANDARDS

The following standards of play activity represent four objectives which should be set up by the community recreation leader in a good program of organized play.

1. Play should be for the sake of recreation and enjoyment, not for the sake of reward in terms of money or of individual team glory.

2. Play should be so organized that an opportunity for wholesome expression will be given to all. The athletic tournaments that develop representative teams and that cater only to star players and the physically strong, have no place in a democratic, broad, play program.

3. Play should provide opportunity for friendly social contact. This does not develop out of the bitter fighting spirit, which "team rooters" create and foster.

4. Play, through athletic activity, has tremendous possibilities in terms of mental, moral and social as well as physical value. There is too much tendency to think of athletics as an activity for a small group which has already developed some degree of physical skill and proficiency. Rather, athletics should be a related part of a recreation program.

PRACTICAL OPERATION

The community recreation leader should be

able to interpret these objectives in terms of a practical detailed organization. If he finds himself in a situation where the "inter-store" or "inter-factory" fight for a trophy is in full swing, his only course is to work for a gradual injection of these principles into his organization. It is most unwise to tear down a whole system and submit an entirely different plan. It is better to introduce these new ideas as rapidly and as diplomatically as possible, giving them support by building up a sympathetic attitude among the girls.

The following outline is neither a program in detail nor a program for an ideal situation. It contains suggestions for selection of plays and games to take the place of the typical program of these athletic leagues. The main change is the introduction of the Red and Blue grouping idea. This is the first step toward an ideal situation, based on the Play Day system which is at present spreading rapidly through schools and colleges all over the country. By "Play Day" is meant the coming together of two or more schools for athletic activity where competition is based on some arbitrarily chosen division and not on the "school-against-school play." Girls are divided by lot into teams that take part in the various games. These Play Days have been tremendously successful in every instance. This is the most obvious demonstration of the practical worth of the "Play Day" idea.

ORGANIZATION OUTLINE

A. Central grouping into "Units."

In large cities there might be several "units."

A unit consists of a group of clubs such as:

Factory girls' league

Office girls' league

Church leagues

Y. W. C. A. leagues

Any other leagues organized by the City Recreation Department

These units are to be centrally controlled by a representative committee. Thus all clubs may

operate with some similarity of objective and procedure.

It has been suggested that the Central Committee may consist of representatives chosen by the girls and the employed leader.

B. Organization of Reds and Blues (or whatever names may be selected for the groups).

All leagues are divided in half, and correspondingly girls belong to either the "Reds" or the "Blues." Competition for the year is between these color teams and not for the league championship.

To explain more in detail, take the factory league organization as an example. If there were thirty girls entered from one factory they would be divided into two groups of fifteen each. These groups would be known in all activities as the "reds" or the "blues." If only ten or even fewer, came from another factory they would be assigned to a certain color for the year and combined with other small groups. All such assignment is made by the central committee. This committee must check constantly on registration so that there is always an even number of reds and blues. When a factory has girls enough for only one team during the year the aim should be to interest more girls and have two teams the next year.

C. Inter-group plans.

1. A. Round-robin tournament between the Reds and the Blues is held for each separate team game. (See list under "Suggested Activities.") Results of all league tournaments are compared in order to determine color championship.

2. Before each tournament a month should be given over to general practice of the special sport. It is advisable for several groups to practice at the same hour. A good plan is to unite several groups and have their beginners come at one time and their advanced players at another time. The object is not to get one highly trained team from a group, but to get the greatest number of teams.

3. It is suggested that there be regular meetings about six or seven times a year when all the separate groups of each league may come together. These meetings have carefully planned programs such as:

- a. Dinner, picnic or camp-fire supper
- b. Play Evening with mass games, relays and other such activities
- c. Folk Dances and Social Games
- d. Community Singing
- e. Swimming Play Day

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR'S PROGRAM

A. Team Games

- Fall—Volley ball
- Winter—Basketball
- Spring—Kick ball or Long Base
- Summer—Baseball

Copies of the rules for volley ball and kick ball may be secured on request from the P. R. A. A.

B. Other recreational activities

The following activities may be used according to the time available, space, number of participants and equipment.

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Bowling | Folk dancing |
| Swimming | Archery |
| Handball | Hiking |
| Horseshoe pitching | Campcraft |

PROGRAMS FOR PLAY EVENINGS

The following programs are suggested for general play evenings. Organization for both is similar in the matter of selection of color teams and the details of the program. All the girls of one unit assemble and are divided by lot into eight color teams. They stay with the same team all evening and are known as the "Greens," "Yellows," "Purples." There is an equal opportunity for all to join in the games. Events that are interesting and enjoyable for the participants must be selected. These are determined largely by the numbers involved, space and equipment.

A. A suggested program for a "Unit" Play Evening:

- 7:00 General assembly and division into color teams. Election of captains for the evening.
- 7:15-7:45 Folk-dancing: Virginia Reel
- 8:00-9:00 Stunts and Obstacle Relays
- 9:00-10:00 Mass Game; Cage Ball
- 10:00 Group Singing—Mass Singing

B. A Suggested Play Evening program for all the "Red" teams of two units.

- 7:00 General assembly and division into color teams. Election of captains for the evening.
- 7:15-7:45 Social Games: Conversational Circle
- How Do You Do

8:00-9:00 Relays based on the team-sport in season. Example: Over-and-under Basketball Relay

9:00-10:00 Mass Game: Progressive Dodgeball or Bombardment

10:00 Stunt, put on by one of the groups (or challenge stunts)

Some groups may wish to close the evening promptly at 10:00 o'clock, particularly when it

is necessary for the girls participating to be at work early next day. In order to limit the program to three hours, the time given some of the activities may be shortened or the suggested intermission may be omitted.

C. A College Play Day.

The following program of a College Play Day was carried out on February 18, 1928, at the University of Cincinnati. The organization of the Play Day was similar to others in principle although different in detail. The program follows:

General Plan

Members from each college are equally distributed into eight groups:

1. Rose
2. Blue
3. Green
4. Yellow
5. Brown
6. Purple
7. Tan
8. Black

Order of the Day

Activities—Basketball, Cage ball, Relays, Folk Dancing and Swimming.

Novelties—The challenge system is used for novelties. Any girl may challenge any member of another color team to any form of individual competition, not necessarily on the list.

SUGGESTED LIST

1. Stunts—Indian Wrestle
2. Baseball—Accuracy Throw
3. Basketball—Distance Throw
4. Dashes
5. Hopscotch
6. Quoits
7. Jacks

Tentative Time Schedule

12:30 Registration and Assembly in the Women's Gymnasium. Election of team captain.

1:00-1:30 Folk Dancing. How Do You Do. Conversation Circle.

1:40-2:10 Cage Ball: Rose-Blue vs. Green-Yellow. Women's Gym. Basketball: Brown vs.

Purple. Men's Gym. Relays: Tan vs. Black. Hughes High School Gym.

2:20-2:50 Cage Ball: Brown-Tan vs. Purple-Black. Women's Gym. Basketball: Rose vs. Green. Men's Gym. Relays: Blue vs. Yellow. Hughes High School Gym.

3:00-3:30 Basketball: Blue vs. Yellow. Men's Gym. Tan vs. Black. Relays: Brown vs. Purple. Hughes High School Gym. Rose vs. Green.

3:30-3:45 General Participation in Novelty Challenges.

3:45-4:00 General Assembly in Women's Gymnasium.

4:00-4:30 Posture Parade.

4:30-5:00 Swimming.

Scoring System

5 Points for Winner of Team

1 Point for Individual Winner of Challenge.

Award for individual with the best posture.

Relay Period—Dish Pan Relay—10 minutes. Spoon and Potato Relay—10 minutes. Obstacle Relay—10 minutes.

The same girl or group of girls may not participate in all relays.

Furthering Public Recreation in New York City

Representatives of sixty-two civic recreational and neighborhood agencies met recently at the annual meeting of the city Recreation Committee. The resolutions adopted by the group of 150 people called for the donation of funds realized from the sale of city-owned property, to the establishment of playgrounds; for the establishing of borough-wide plans for the development of playgrounds and the assessing of the cost upon each borough as a whole for the playgrounds in that borough, for the raising of the standards required in playground directors and the establishing of sufficiently high salary schedules to maintain such standards.

The Place of the Public Recreation Board or Commission in Conducting Community-Wide Recreation

BY EUGENE M. BAER,

Chairman, Board of Public Recreation, Wheeling, West Virginia

The affairs of all corporations are directed by a manager, superintendent or active head who is selected by a Board of Directors, in turn chosen by the stockholders. The same plan exists in recreation projects, the stockholders being the taxpayers, the Board of Directors, the Commission or Board, the Superintendent, the acting managing head.

No sensible Board of Directors will interfere with the manager of an industrial enterprise nor permit anything to be done which would tend to decrease or diminish the earning power of the corporation or the return of profit to stockholders. The same is true of a civic body. The return to its taxpayers or stockholders is in the form of dividends—not so many dollars and cents but in a more altruistic form, so many better citizens and friends.

No wise general would shackle his soldiers and send them on the field of battle, nor would any wise Board seek to cramp the style or to impede the progress of its employed workers. I do not mean to imply that all the projects a superintendent may wish to carry through are to be supported, but I do say very forcibly that after a program is decided upon no individual should, by any act of his, do anything which might interfere with the successful carrying out of the work.

Harmony between the Board and its superintendent is essential. Friction results in heat, retards progress and produces nothing. Perfect understanding, helpful suggestions, confidence and a spirit of cooperation are the essentials of the relationship between the Board and the superintendent.

It is, I believe, a clever idea to plan your work and then work your plan. I think that the superintendent should be the fountain head from which ideas should emanate. These ideas should be

thoroughly discussed in Board meeting, and, if decided upon, should be prosecuted vigorously and pushed to a satisfactory termination. Should the active head be slow about producing ideas, Board members should tactfully suggest ideas to him, let him think them over and present them as his own.

Board members must bring to their work an enthusiasm and energy that will electrify and penetrate the entire personnel of the organization. Loyalty to the work and a desire to do a real job must trickle from the top down; it will never come from the bottom up.

Board members, representing as they do all political parties and interests, must be non-partisan. There may be a disposition on the part of politicians to place in positions some of their supporters, but appointments must be made upon the fitness of the candidate for the position and upon no other basis.

The attitude of the Board should be passive in affairs that the superintendent is handling actively and efficiently, but it should be decidedly active in matters in which there is any sign of letting down or impairment of service.

The Board must be able to visualize its work, looking at it in an unbiased and unprejudiced way so that the greatest good for the greatest number will result. There must be the greatest unanimity of interest in the Board. Each member should feel that his office is a public trust and should so conduct the affairs of the Board that its works will be constructive. The taxpayer should be impelled to have a respect for it and to feel that their interests are amply safe-guarded by the Board and its personnel.

All work should be under the supervision of the Board. This does not mean that a Board should be meddlesome, nor does it mean an atti-

tude of lack of interest. Board members should have knowledge of all pending activities; they should have thoroughly discussed and deliberated upon all needed improvements or proposed new activities. But once a program is decided upon those in charge of it should be permitted to carry it on without interference.

The Board should be quick to praise, slow to censure. The employed workers should be made to feel that in the Board they have friends with whom they may advise and to whom they may take their problems with the assurance of hearty cooperation in their solution.

The role of the Board is similar to that of the President's Cabinet. It should counsel and advise, project and propose, but the active carrying out of the plan must be entrusted to the executive officer, who will have the whole-hearted cooperation of the Board. Board members must be big enough and broad enough to submerge their individuality and permit the superintendent to take the applause. On the other hand, they must be sufficiently good sportsmen to shield the executive from adverse comment and public censure.

A Board should be more legislative and judicial than executive.

Community-wide recreation is sufficiently comprehensive and broad to challenge the efforts of any community. It presents a program which is

interesting and intriguing. It carries with it a real thrill and a feeling of satisfaction when it is brought to a successful culmination. The taxpayer has a perfect right to demand public safety, public health and public recreation programs, and it depends largely upon how the Board can visualize its responsibilities, whether it receive the support of the taxpayer or his condemnation. The taxpayer has a perfect right to assume the Missourian attitude—"Show me"; the Board *must* show. If it can do it, well and good. If it cannot, its members would better resign and permit individuals with more capacity to take their places.

I hope that from what I have said you will not jump to the conclusion that I consider a Board a nonentity—nothing of the kind. Nor do I wish to convey the impression that the superintendent is a Czar with unlimited powers. The Board may be likened to a Board of Strategy or a Council of War, the Superintendent to the General in Command who carries out plans previously made in conference and reports back obstacles to be overcome and the progress of the campaign. The happy combination is a well balanced Board and an energetic superintendent with the ability to take kindly to suggestions, who has confidence in his own powers, who is dynamic, magnetic and of a good personality.

Recreation Congress

and

Miniature Aircraft Tournament

Atlantic City, New Jersey

October 1-6, 1928

The Playground as an Institution

There is both a directly practical and a more than practical difference between an institution and a place. When Metternich said that Italy was only a geographical expression he said that Italy did not exist. The difference between a country and a place is that you can belong to the one; you can only visit the other,—the difference between spiritual membership and bodily presence.

And I think this spiritual element is important on the playground. I do not mean that we should do anything directly in insisting upon such membership or in celebrating it, that we should whoop it up for the playground or make a great fuss about it. I think there is too much of that in American life already. But there is a quiet sense of belonging, preferably not talked about or even mentioned, that does something to the members and this something is important. It has a certain practical importance because it makes possible leaders among the older boys, a sense of making the playground go, of outrage to it when any gang undertakes to monopolize it and run it in their private interest. . . . And more important, the sense of membership is an expansion of personality to all the members, one more expression of an aim and purpose in life, with the implied standards exacted by that purpose to which they are committed.

And membership implies continuity. You cannot belong to something intermittent. If your country existed only on Wednesdays and Fridays, it could not be your country. The same is true of your home, your school, your church.

And it is a help to continuity of soul if there is a continuity of practical expression. Especially is this true in the establishment of a new loyalty like loyalty to a playground.

There is also habit. Besides loyalty, and an aid to it, there is the feeling of a refuge, a place to go, of habitual resort.

For these as for every other reason, a playground should be continuous throughout the year (probably the best and most economic use we ever make of our playgrounds is in skating and coasting where these are possible, for these activities require less supervision and are possible to more people to the square inch than any others).

And during the seasons of resort, even if these

are not as they should be all the seasons, the playground should have some indoor resources, something to do when it rains. You must not only go there whenever you want to, but you must be able to count on going, think of the playground as the place where you can always go. Therefore our aim should be summer and winter, rain or shine, morning and evening, hockey by electric light, evening parties and the twilight league, hours from 9 A. M. to midnight—the evening hours for parties, including especially the aged.

JOSEPH LEE.

Junior Police in Columbus, Georgia

A system of Junior Police has been worked out on the Columbus, Georgia, playgrounds, whereby each playground has five policemen appointed by the play leader and sworn in by the Chief of Police. These boys are supplied with official junior police badges by the Department of Recreation and are responsible for them to the extent of seventy-five cents if they lose them. Boys who apply for positions as junior policemen are appointed by the play leader only after careful investigation of their leadership ability. Further, each boy is put on probation for about a week so that the leader will be able to judge of his possibilities. The boys appointed are directly responsible to the Chief of Police. A special form of agreement signed by the boy is taken to police headquarters, where he is sworn in by the Chief. The boy keeps one copy and the other is filed in the files of the Department of Recreation. The Chief of Police may call out the entire group of junior police staff when they are needed.

It has been the practice to hold meetings of the junior police organization about once in three weeks. At this time local men are asked to talk to the boys about certain phases of city administration. The Chief of the Fire Department, for example, has given a talk and a demonstration of the operation of the fire alarm system.

Arrangements are usually made with the authorities of the Georgia-Auburn ball game to furnish with passes the boys who act as policemen in handling street traffic during the day of the game. On this basis only the boys who actually do duty are permitted to enter.

Public Recreation in Brooklyn

The latest report of the Bureau of Recreation, Department of Parks, Borough of Brooklyn, of which J. J. Downing is superintendent, tells of the need for increased facilities for recreation in that borough and the efforts which have been made during the past two years to meet these needs.

Exceptional advances, the report states, have been made in the construction of eight new children's playgrounds in various sections of the borough. Some of these plots had been the property of the city for as long as ten years, but because of lack of funds their development and equipment were not possible. These new play spaces provide approximately fourteen additional acres of playground property for thousands of children. This added provision, however, is utterly inadequate to the needs. A study recently made by the Bureau has disclosed the fact that at least thirty playgrounds will be required to provide properly for play areas for children in the different sections of the borough who have been entirely neglected in the former purchase of parks and playgrounds.

While the Bureau has forty-eight baseball diamonds under its jurisdiction, it is possible to issue permits for only about one-third of the applicants wishing them. So great is the demand that with 369 tennis courts it is necessary to restrict play to one hour periods on some of the courts on Saturdays and Sundays. Field hockey for high school girls is becoming so popular that present facilities are being taxed, and while demands are constantly growing many areas formerly used for some of these sports are rapidly decreasing.

These are a few of the problems the Bureau has faced during the past two years in spite of the many facilities it is operating with its staff of over one hundred workers, requiring an expenditure of \$68,125 for personal service alone.

One of the activities popular with adults is croquet. Many retired business men are to be found on the croquet field located in a quiet spot in Prospect Park. A small field house nearby provides lockers where the players store their equipment. A fee of \$2.50 for the use of the lockers gives the holder the privilege of using the field.

The miniature golf course at Prospect Park, consisting of two cages for practice driving and

nine putting greens for practicing holing out, were used by seven hundred and ninety-five players who secured permits in 1927 at a charge of \$1.00 for the season.

The tennis players of Prospect Park have for their use a \$60,000 clubhouse, furnished with 368 private lockers for storing tennis paraphernalia, for which a charge of \$2.50 a season is made. A large section of the building is devoted to metal racks used for general lockers, in which about 1,000 people can store their nets and rackets at a charge of \$1.50 a season. A fee of \$1.00 is charged for season play permits. The tennis courts are used from Decoration Day until Thanksgiving Day, and in 1927, 4,635 tennis permits were issued, permitting the players to use the courts in any of the parks of the borough. The Bureau maintains a bath house at Betsy Head Playground, containing fifty-eight shower baths and four hundred lockers. Towels and soap are provided at the very low cost of one cent. The outdoor swimming pool, sixty feet wide and one hundred and fifty feet long, is one of the largest municipal pools in this section of the country. A charge is made for 10c for adults and five cents for children. This entitles the bather to a bathing suit, towel and soap. In 1927, 241,321 people took shower baths, while 32,147 used the swimming pool.

The Bureau is fortunate in having in Prospect Park a lake covering sixty-two acres. In summer boats are rented to individuals, a number of swan boats are operated for the enjoyment of the children and an electric launch carrying about thirty people makes a circuit of the lake. In winter the lake is used for skating and a number of spaces in the smaller parks are flooded for skating. Approximately 500,000 made use of the facilities provided for winter sports in 1926. In 1927 the skating period was very limited and there were only eight days of skating on the lake of Prospect Park. During the skating season the boat house at the lake is converted into a skating house.

The picnic grounds in the parks of Brooklyn are used to great advantage. Permits were issued in 1927 alone to 540 groups. Almost 70,000 children attended these picnics. One hundred thousand dollars has been appropriated for a new picnic house of fireproof construction.

Two piers under the supervision of this Bureau are used for recreation purposes, games and other activities, being conducted under the leadership of a playground worker. Band concerts were given on one of the piers during the summer months.

And music is a popular part of the program of the Bureau. In 1927, \$26,700 was allowed for music with the result that forty-three concerts were given at the music grove in Prospect Park and ninety-seven at twenty of the small parks in various sections of the borough.

The activities which have been mentioned are only a few of those conducted by the Bureau not taking into account the special day celebrations, bringing thousands of participants and spectators to the park, the program of municipal athletics or the playground program with its many special events.

A Recreation Training Course in Reading

During the spring and early summer the Reading, Pennsylvania, Recreation Department is conducting recreation courses in order to meet the needs of the Department for leaders in various divisions of its work. These courses also give opportunity for special training to teachers, institutional workers, occupational therapists, camp-fire guardians, storytellers, Sunday school leaders, boy and girl club leaders, and volunteers who are particularly interested in the opportunities offered for service on a city playground.

The courses were given on Thursday night from March 8 to May 24 and on Saturday morning from April 21 through May 19. The Saturday morning periods were devoted to observation and leadership practice periods. During April 6 to 11, Easter vacation, the playgrounds were opened and tryouts for the playground workers were conducted. From June 11 to 23 a two weeks Play Institute will be held for college students.

Those taking the course were required to have had two years of high school or its equivalent, and to be at least seventeen years of age. Assigned readings were required outside of the regular session. A tuition fee of \$3.00 was charged to cover all the materials used and any damages to school property. A part of the fee was returnable according to amount of damage done.

Golf in Minneapolis

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF ALL GOLF COURSES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1927

	ROUNDS PLAYED				REVENUE				EXPENDITURES			
	9 Holes		18 Holes		Club		Playing and Misc.		Course		General	
	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Totals	Revenue	Revenue	Revenue	Maint.	Operative	Building and Misc.	Total
Glenwood	\$25	1,791	3%	\$40	57,028	97%	\$8,819	\$23,258.95	\$2,242.50	\$15,505.08	\$41,006.53	\$31,799.58
Columbia	25	2,920	5%	40	51,800	95%	54,720	21,450.00	2,179.95	14,423.35	10,331.01	\$9,206.95
Armour	50	4,614	12%	75	32,868	88%	37,482	26,958.00	4,245.51	11,127.32	9,401.77	29,088.99
Meadowbrook	50	12,435	51%	75	11,868	49%	24,299	14,844.30	628.33	5,155.53	2,688.63	15,386.91
TOTALS		21,760		153,564	175,320	\$86,511.25	\$6,296.34	\$45,930.32	\$138,737.91	\$27,661.06	\$8,941.25	\$97,567.59

*Miscellaneous rounds at 25 cents and 40 cents were played during the wet season when entire course was not playable.

**The increased cost of Glenwood Course maintenance over Columbia is attributed to the larger area of the Glenwood course and also to an expenditure of approximately \$1,000.00 for improvements in 1927.

GLENWOOD—Area, 120.6 acres. Sand greens and clay tees. The oldest of our courses, established with 6 holes in 1916. The revenue above cost of maintenance and operation has been applied toward improvement of the course, cost of buildings (\$75,000.00) and refund of expenditures from general fund to which it is still indebted to the extent of \$53,971.31. COLUMBIA—Area, 84.6 acres. Sand greens and clay tees. The use of revenue is similar to that at Glenwood. Columbia owes \$39,700.00 toward the cost of the building which was \$88,220.26. ARMOUR—Area, 151.8 acres. Grass greens and grass tees. Acquired and improved in 1924 under a finance plan by which cost of lands and improvements are paid for out of income less expense. Cost of course \$209,300.00. Interest 4.5%. First year's earnings (1925) were insufficient to meet expenses. 1926 earnings permitted a payment of \$11,326.01. 1927 earnings permitted a payment of \$18,014.35, which did not cover interest payment. 1928 earnings will, no doubt, permit payment of accumulated interest and also first installment on reduction of capital indebtedness.

MEADOWBROOK—Area, 207.59 acres. Grass greens and grass tees. Acquired in 1925 under similar finance plan as Armour course. Cost of course \$130,000.00. As at Armour the first year's earnings (1926) were insufficient to meet expenses. 1927 earnings, although sufficient to meet expenses, were not large enough to cover the deficit of 1926. The revenue was below expectations. Play was retarded because of flooding of the lowland during the greater part of the season. The contemplated plan of dredging and filling will remedy this condition. Cost of this improvement (\$89,388.00) will bring the total cost to \$219,388.00. The course is geographically well located, its popularity, manifest at present, will increase, insuring a successful operation as soon as full play conditions are provided. Note percentage of 9 and 18 hole rounds played as compared with other courses.

A Few Facts About the Recreation Program at Minneapolis

Many interesting facts are given in the 1927 annual report of the Recreation Department, Board of Park Commissioners, Minneapolis.

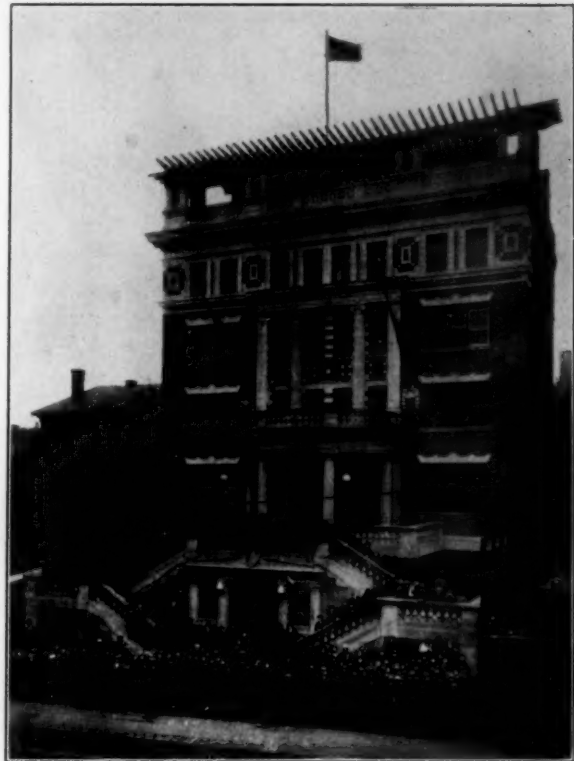
In 1926 the Department conducted twenty-nine playgrounds with an attendance of 1,184,536. In 1927 with the same number of grounds, the attendance was 1,854,732.

The total rounds of golf for the season were 175,320 on the four municipal courses.

One hundred and seventy-five thousand one hundred and ten men and women used the four swimming centers. The total receipts were \$7,912.52; the total expenditures \$18,991.32.

Minneapolis is known throughout the country as a winter sports center. The Park Department last year provided eighteen skating rinks with shelter building service, fifteen with portable warming houses, fifteen with no building accommodations but with benches, and one rink for speed skating. There were eleven hockey rinks (full regulation and lighted); eight (not lighted—boarded only); five small hockey rinks (cleared—not boarded—for boys' practice rink). Tobogganing is a popular winter sport. Of specially iced slides, there were nine. Thirteen centers were provided for sliding; six for skiing.

The per capita cost of the various winter sport centers has been carefully worked out in the report. It ranges from \$.0045 for the use of certain toboggan slides to \$.4165 for horse racing, the highest per capita cost listed. The total expenditures were \$49,993.50; total receipts \$3,679.57; net expenditures \$46,314. The attendance was 2,047,364, making the average per capita cost \$.0224. In addition the total attendance at the natural hill slides at five parks was 9,700,000.

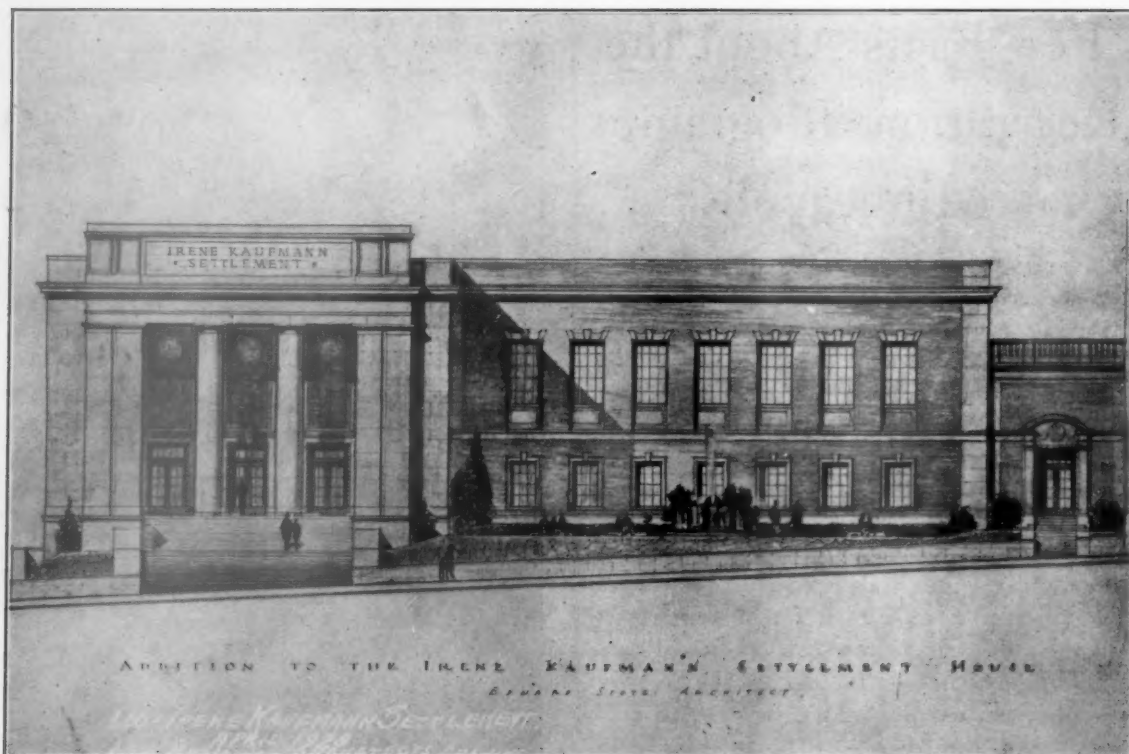


IRENE KAUFMANN SETTLEMENT ERECTED IN 1909 IN PITTSBURGH, PA.

A New Building for the Irene Kaufmann Settlement

The Irene Kaufmann Settlement of Pittsburgh has broken ground for a number of new buildings made possible by the generous gift of Henry Kaufmann. A large plot of land adjoining the settlement has been purchased and on it will be erected a beautiful auditorium in memory of Theresa Kaufmann, Mr. Kaufmann's deceased wife. The auditorium will be fully equipped as a Little Theatre and will have a seating capacity for 625 people. There will also be erected an up-to-date gymnasium having a 40' x 80' playing floor with a gallery for spectators, two large locker rooms and shower baths, a swimming pool 25' x 60' with facilities for spectators and separate public baths for men and women.

One whole floor will be given over to studios and classrooms for the enlarged music school conducted by the settlement, and additional space has been provided for the neighborhood art school.



The handcraft activities will have new and larger quarters, and a beautiful new recreation room for boys with a separate social room for young men have been included, as well as additional rooms for the resident members of the staff. The buildings will be of fireproof construction, complete in every detail, and every effort will be made to make them beautiful as well as serviceable. The new additions will be three stories high and will enlarge the settlement by over 900,000 cubic feet of space. Plans provide for a fully equipped model playground and a new children's "milk well." The total cost of the land, buildings and equipment of the new edition will exceed \$625,000.

Mr. Kaufmann's recent contribution brings his gifts to the Irene Kaufmann Settlement to a total of over \$1,750,000. The settlement began in 1895 as the Columbian School and Settlement and continued under that name until 1909, when it was changed to the Irene Kaufmann Settlement with the erection of a new building made possible by a gift of about \$200,000, given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Kaufmann's daughter, Irene. In 1920, on the Settlement's 25th anniversary, Mr. Kaufmann gave a fund of \$250,000 to provide for an expansion of the work, and in 1925 the Settlement received from him a gift of downtown property valued then at more than \$750,000. Rentals

from this property go toward the cost of operation and maintenance of the settlement.

Mr. Kaufmann, who was born in Germany in 1860, came to America at the age of sixteen as a poor lad and settled in Pittsburgh. He has contributed largely to a number of philanthropic organizations in Pittsburgh and to foreign relief campaigns. His local gifts alone have exceeded over \$2,000,000.

Mr. Kaufmann is an exemplification of the business man who believes he has a civic duty to his community and whose ability to make money is used for the benefit of his fellowmen.

Frank W. Wardwell, Secretary, 33rd District of the Lions' Club, Portland, Me., at the bottom of his business letterhead has these words:

"I run a printing shop. I am in business because I have to maintain a home, but I love to hunt and fish and sail and loaf. Anybody who's like that, too, can come to 32 Exchange Street, Portland, Maine, and meet an understanding friend."

"The leisure time, of course, is responsible for criminals. You do not have to worry about a boy who is busy. Child leisure is a greater peril than child labor."—H. W. GIBSON.

Play Leadership in a Department Store

A rather unusual opportunity was presented to the P. R. A. A. recently when the firm of Gimbel Brothers requested its cooperation in conducting a week's demonstration of model back yard playgrounds.

Two spaces were equipped. One represented a city back yard 20 x 20 feet with equipment consisting of a 3-piece combination gym (swing, rings and trapeze), a medium slide, 2 benches and a sand box with awning and many sand toys, and the second a suburban yard 25 x 30 feet equipped with a 4 piece combination gym (two swings, rings and trapeze), a large slide, sand box, see-saw, benches and bird bath.

Each afternoon, a group of children from the city playgrounds, demonstrated the use of the equipment, and a play program suited to that space. These programs covered chiefly sand play, games, folk dancing, storytelling and handcraft.

Many signs throughout the store announced the location of the exhibit as follows:

Come to the 6th floor—an Exhibit of

City and Suburban play yards

Sponsored by the Playground and Recreation

Association of America—

Represented by

Miss Madeline Stevens

Other signs on the sixth floor itself announced the program each day and invited customers to consult Miss Stevens before buying their playground equipment and play material.

One of the great joys of the exhibit was the pleasure derived by the children, both those who came with parents, and those who were giving the program. They were allowed the full use of every piece of equipment on display, and made the most of their opportunity. Even a jungle gym was set up in one of the aisles, much to the delight of the youngsters.

A student from the National Recreation School was employed to assist in leading the play so that Miss Stevens might be free for conferences.

While it was difficult to tell exactly how many people attended during the two weeks time, there were perhaps special interviews with about forty

persons a day. These represented many suburbanites who wished to buy one or two things for the yard—many were spending the summer in bungalows at the beaches and wanted slides for the sand.

Many recreation workers from various parts of the country who were passing through the city visited the store and evinced much interest.

The entire Gimbel management were thoroughly cooperative and gave every bit of assistance possible without ever mentioning the commercial side and were satisfied with the results attained.

The principal literature distributed was the pamphlet, "How Can We Use P. R. A. A.;" and the list of publications—samples of the game books and "Home Play" were on exhibition also.

Marbles and Safety

The *Indianapolis News* tells of a plan adopted by the boys and teachers at Public School No. 6 for marble playing gets out of the safety campaign to some extent and becomes an experiment in government. Because there is danger of being struck by an automobile if a boy chases a marble into the street, the players of this school have made a ruling that no marble shall be so chased. In the language of golf, if it goes out of bounds it is to be regarded as lost. The owner takes a witness to his teacher and they testify as to the facts. The teacher then gives the boy another marble. Thus all losses are made good from a general fund supplied by the generosity of the big winners. The movement tends to show the weight the children attach to the safety talks they have heard in school and to the regulations laid down for them by the school traffic code. Just how this marble reimbursement scheme will work when the vacant lot baseball season opens remains to be seen. Marbles are cheap. Baseballs are not. Some method must be devised so that a boy who is playing in the field will not chase a baseball into the street to prevent another player from stretching a single into a three-bagger or a home run.—From the *Indianapolis News*.

A New Jersey County Promotes Recreation

By

S. A. MATHEWSON

The Union County, New Jersey, Park Commission recently issued its first annual report. In spite of the fact that the Department was only ten and one half months old at the time the report was published, it has a record of definite accomplishment.

Trap Shooting—This sport has been popular with men and boys on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Special competitive programs were arranged by the Recreation Department which added much interest. Plans under way for a temporary field house will increase the effectiveness of the program. A Trap Shooting Committee consisting of five members, each man representing a different community, conducts a series of team shoots which are participated in by several Gun Clubs in Northern New Jersey. This Committee also assists in the general supervision of the grounds.

Playgrounds — Five additional playgrounds were opened in June, making a total of six and a total playground attendance for the year of

288,613. Owing to the fact that the various grounds are so widely separated, each playground was a unit in itself. All phases of the program were conducted, such as special days, athletic badge tests, handcraft, athletics, story telling, folk dancing.

Baseball—The Union County Baseball League has been organized, consisting of Class "A" Teams, representing the various towns and cities in the County. A very successful junior baseball program was promoted through a league of eight teams of boys between the ages of 16 and 18. There is also a league of boys under 16. In addition there were many independent teams playing on various fields in the system.

Football—This sport has been the means of drawing a large number of people to the Park System, as games have been played every Sunday at three parks.

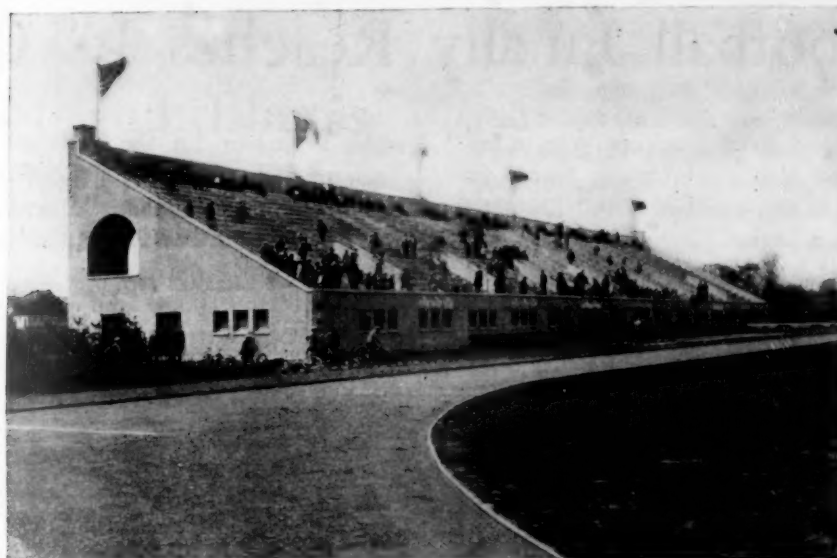
Bowling on the Green—With the construction of a bowling green in Green Brook Park, a club was organized in Plainfield, whose membership has increased so greatly as to make the organization the largest lawn bowling club in the metropolitan area.

Boating—A total of \$653.75 was received from the rental of boats at Echo Lake, and \$2,672.20 at Lake Surprise.

Skating—There were ten skating areas available



UNION COUNTY, N. J.



THE STADIUM, UNION COUNTY, N. J.

during the past year with hockey rinks on four of them. An Ice Hockey League of six teams has been organized. Publicity for the rinks was given through window cards in prominently located store windows and various communities in the County, the managers of these stores being notified by telephone when there was skating.

Picnics—The records show that there were 322 picnics held in the park system during the summer months. The increase in numbers is credited to the fact that a letter was mailed to each minister in the county, with the result that a large number of Sunday Schools and churches held their outings in the parks.

Fireplaces were constructed in various sections of the Park System which has also encouraged family and group picnics.

Bathing—A large number of people availed themselves of the privilege of bathing at Lake Surprise, under the supervision of two life guards. Here the Union County Water Carnival was held, which proved very successful.

Soccer—The Union County Soccer League was organized by the Recreation Department and was very successfully conducted. In addition to this league there were four other leagues which played their games on the fields in the Park System.

Nature Study—Considerable progress has been made in organizing Nature Study groups in each

community in the County, and the whole nature study program has been developed by encouraging each group to assist the other in the form of furnishing leaders and lecturers. It is also planned to hold joint meetings.

UNION COUNTY, N. J., HOLDS A PAGEANT

Historical events which took place in Union County, New Jersey, were woven into a pageant held under the auspices of the Union County Park Commission on June 27th and 28th at Echo Lake Park. A beautiful setting was provided by the sloping hillside, level area, trees and water at this unit of the system. There was ample space for the parking of thousands of cars.

The cast consisted of several thousand people. The first episode depicted the glacial period, evidences of which are to be seen in the park. The next scene portrayed Indian life along the historic Minisink Trail, which passed through this section of the county. This was followed by scenes showing the Colonial period, the Revolution, Civil War, Spanish War, World War, Morgan disaster and other events.

"I have been tempted to say the aim of education is to produce a disciplined imagination."—
ELMER ELLSWORTH BROWN.

A Football Finally Reaches Its Goal

"A football kicked about from one year to another, to this and that organization, landed in November, 1926, in the lap of Medford Post No. 15 of the American Legion."

Thus R. E. McElhose, Post Commander of Medford Post No. 15, describes the efforts which had been made in his city of 12,000 to establish playgrounds. "And we decided," he continues, "to kick the wind out of it."

As Mr. McElhose describes the process, the Post immediately went about collecting information on playgrounds. Meanwhile, a beautiful site of nearly three acres in the center of the city was selected and at the request of the Legion the property, formerly used as an automobile camp ground by the city, was turned over to the Post. On September 15, 1927, the land was dedicated to the children of Medford in a ceremony in which the Boy Scouts held effective flag raising exercises and accepted as their headquarters a building on the grounds approximately 32 feet by 62 feet. The building contains a reception room, reading room, office for Scout executive, four shower bath rooms and an auditorium with a huge fireplace.

A call for volunteers from the Legion Post brought out enough man power one Sunday to wreck several small buildings which had been used for camp rentals. A tractor was put into play, pulling out old trees and stumps, while a road scraper ironed out the rough spots. Moving pictures were taken of the crew and shown at a Post meeting. This helped to keep up interest and to provide news items in the local papers.

Up to date (February, 1928) considerable equipment has been installed and game courts laid out; 12,000 square feet of lawn with a sprinkling system have been laid, 60 native Oregon trees and \$200 worth of fine shrubs and vines have been set out and a drive and parking space for automobiles prepared. The Post is now installing a huge cement and brick drinking fountain at the canal end of the combination wading pool. Water will be forced through this canal to

make a current for the boats and the Manual Training Department of the High School is making two bridges to cross the canal. A drinking fountain will be installed at the entrance to the ground.

All of this work has been accomplished without calling on the City Council for any funds other than those expended in dedicating the ground for play. The financial campaign was carried on in the following manner: A letter to sixty-five organizations in the city asking for assistance brought a hearty response. News items in the local press encouraged individuals to send in money. The Lions' Club gave a concert; the Kiwanis Club assessed their members, and the Rotary Club voted funds from their treasury, as did teacher councils and other groups. Labor unions gave labor, Jackson County prisoners were put to work and a local contractor, a member of the Legion, laid all the cement without charge. A local architect donated blue prints for the building and spaced the apparatus, while a lumber company donated lumber. As a last resort the committee went on the air over the local radio station and financial worries were over.

The campaign brought out a number of touching instances. Seventeen Japanese children pooled their contributions and \$56.50 was mailed the Legion. A letter was received with a \$3.00 enclosure from the mother of three children, living three miles in the country, who said that these little Americans had saved their pennies for a month.

"Such examples," says Mr. McElhose, "showed us just how derelict we had been in the performance of our civic responsibilities. I am satisfied that play is the heritage of childhood and you cannot take it away from the child without paying the price."

Three acres have been set aside in another section of the city to be developed later on and the objective is the development of a community-wide recreation program with an employed executive in charge.

Home Play Week in Rock Island, Illinois

"The games listed for tonight are games suggested by parents of the city as being the most popular in their home play activities. The games, it will be noted, are mostly those of skill and are on the whole preferred to games of chance. Checkers are just as popular now as fifty years ago and can be enjoyed by parents as well as children. Dominoes are excellent for children and adults to play. Chess is the aristocrat of games and every home should have a chess fiend. Crokinole and caroms are more popular today than during the craze which followed their first introduction. Ping pong is one of the most popular games around boys' clubs. Sets may be bought for as low as \$2. Ring toss is one of the most popular games on the cities' playgrounds. A board either two or three feet square with finishing nails driven into the same to serve as pegs and rubber jar washers is all that is needed to construct a game that will appeal immensely to children and adults as well. Indoor quoits and horseshoe sets are inexpensive and are recommended. Homes having large basements can easily rig up a regulation horse shoe court by putting clay in two portable boxes and placed the regulation distance apart. Indoor golf is very popular at the present time and Rock Island merchants are showing a great variety of golf games which can be played indoors. Parchesi is another game that is good."

It was with such practical material as this, published each day in the local paper for ten days preceding Home Play Week, that the Playground and Recreation Commission of Rock Island helped create the interest which made the week so great a success.

The Schools Helped

And there were many other interest-creating means employed in addition to the newspaper publicity campaign. One of the main avenues of approach was through the schools, and in all its planning the Commission worked closely in touch with the Parent Teacher Council, through a committee appointed by that group to cooperate with the Commission. The Superintendent of Recreation, Melville H. Hodge, spoke at meetings of the P. T. A., outlining the program, and every school in town, including the parochial schools, gave him

the opportunity to thoroughly present the subject.

The Superintendent of the Schools, R. W. Bardwell, who gave his hearty cooperation to the plan, broadcast a talk over the local radio station. Campaign pledges were distributed to grade and junior high school principals, who gave them to the teachers. The teachers in turn distributed them to the children, also collecting them from the children after they had been signed at home. Sixteen thousand twenty-one of the following blanks were returned signed by parents:

HOME PLAY CAMPAIGN

Rock Island, Illinois

SPONSORED BY THE PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS AND
THE PLAYGROUND AND RECREATION COMMISSION

—February 13th to 18th—

Fathers and Mothers: We ask you to enlist in the HOME PLAY WEEK campaign for our city. Boys and girls are naturally and instinctively interested in play. A mutual interest in your child's play life will develop a bond of sympathy and comradeship which will not only cement home ties and enrich home life but will create a better feeling of understanding between parents and children.

Join the movement to give your child a richer play life, by signing this agreement to pledge yourself to devote at least three hours a week in playing with your children, at home, indoors or outdoors.

After signing this agreement please give to child to be returned to the school teacher, not later than Wednesday, February 17.

Name.....
Address.....
School.....

Play games and tell stories you learned when a child.
Watch columns of the Argus for daily suggestions for home play.

The Library Did Its Part

Books of every description which appealed to the play interest of children were taken from the shelves of the Public Library and put on display in the main lobby. There were books on games and stunts, tricks and magic. There were, too, books on handcraft, and stories suitable for family play night were to be found in the collection. The books were not merely for display purposes, but for use, and many of them were taken home for careful reading.

Merchants, Too, Cooperated

Local merchants planned special window displays of equipment and supplies for use in connection with home play. They also helped by running advertisements.

There was no expense connected with the campaign. The Board of Education through its High School Printing Department printed the blanks.

A Park Department Association.—The Park Department of Tulsa, Oklahoma, has an organization for park employees known as the Tulsa Park Department Association and any member of the Park Department who has been employed for three months is considered a regular member. At the regular monthly meeting held the second Thursday of each month there is a short business meeting followed by a talk from the head of the Department or someone associated with him. At some of the meetings talks are given by caretakers and two of the older ones have been asked to call in the rest to consider certain problems of park maintenance. Together with the head of the maintenance department this group drew up a code of rules and later presented a paper on the qualifications of the caretaker.

After the more formal part of the meeting, the recreation committee of the Association takes charge and an entertainment and refreshments are provided. Members pay an entrance fee of \$1.00 and 25c a month dues. A cabin is being built in Mohawk Park by members of the Association from trees felled in the Park. The Association will make this available to the public and groups wishing to hold picnics.

Recreation on a Pier

By

KEITH JOHNS

St. Petersburg, Florida, builded well for recreation when her magnificent Million Dollar Pier stretching nearly 3000 feet from the shore line was added to the landscape of beautiful Tampa Bay. To vitalize it as the center of recreation became the task of the Board of Recreation.

Many theories have been advanced by interested persons as to the Pier's increased popularity, but the real secret is increased activities. One of the outstanding features of the entertainment offered is the dancing. As part of a campaign to popularize the Pier as a place of recreation, a series of free dances, eighteen in all, planned and carried out under the direction of the Department of Recreation and authorized by the City Commission, attracted crowds of 2000 enthusiastic dancers. The splendid dance floor of 20,000 square feet is surrounded by a colonnade which provides an exceptional place for spectators, sometimes as many as 3000 in number.

The dancers came in such large numbers that



RECREATION PIER, ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.

it was found necessary to devise a scheme to regulate the dances automatically. Discovering that during the early part of the evening elderly dancers predominated, the orchestra was instructed to play two waltzes to one fox trot. After 9:30 and until 11:00 o'clock the young people have their turn and two fox trots are played to one waltz. This arrangement, with two staff members on duty to guard against undesirable dancing, has tended to attract the more desirable element and has practically eliminated criticism. Dancing has been but one feature of the varied pier programs. A stage at one end of the hall is used for the orchestra when dances are held and provides a place for dramatic entertainments when the hall is used as an auditorium. The Annual Playground Pageant participated in by 300 children was given here as a benefit for the Florida Society for Crippled Children. Sunday band concerts formerly held during the tourist season in one of the city parks were transferred to the Pier and enjoyment enhanced by the coolness in the shade of the Pavilion. Wednesday evenings have been reserved for church groups and for community singing. Services have been held under the direction of the Ministerial Association.

The program for this year, as outlined by a special committee of the City Commission, provides also that two nights each week shall be left open for tourist societies, lodges and social organizations, that one night shall be left open to the general public, and that Sunday night shall be devoted to sacred concerts. Municipal dances will be held two nights each week, with a nominal charge to be paid only by dancers. Arrangements for details of programs will be carried out by the Pier Manager, appointed by the Board of Recreation, following authorization by the City Commission. A special budget has been prepared and authorized by the Board and City Commission.

The St. Petersburg Pier with an area of 126,000 square feet on the pier head was planned for recreation purposes. Motorists are provided for by a seventy-two foot pavement the length of the Pier and encircling the two story pavilion at the end. Fishing balconies five feet in width and twenty feet long have been constructed at frequent intervals, and wide sidewalks are laid along the roadway, making the entire approach one of unusual beauty.

An opportunity to see municipally directed recreation administered amid new and unusual surroundings awaits visitors to St. Petersburg.

A Development Company Provides Attractive Recreation Facilities

The Lonnquist Company of Chicago writes of exceptionally interesting recreation features which are being incorporated in the Prospect Park Country Club Playground under the direction of the company.

"These properties," says J. B. Thompson, "have unusual improvements in the way of artistic driveways—parkways—a private 34-acre private park and an 18-hole golf course. Within the next few months a beautiful club house will be built. These community features bespeak a community of folk who will take pride in every future development. The playground, which has been plotted near the club house location, is now under active construction. It is to be a real fairy tale "come true." The portrayal of that world wide known tale, 'Hansel and Gretel,' is to be actually built into a house and the famous figures of the father, step-mother, witch, ginger-bread men—nothing will be forgotten.

"The cyclone fence which will enclose the playground will have quaint figures of animals and birds on every post. The swings and gymnastic apparatus will also have grotesque ornaments on all pillars. The 'Ginger Bread Roofed House,' which is now under construction, will have comfort, convenience and an arcade for supervised play and exhibits. All these features are an elaboration of the playground as it has been used during the past years. The commercial phase of dignified publicity and the 'home folk' appeal cannot be overlooked by the realtor.

"Negotiations for the major figures to be sculptured and designed by the Art Institute are now pending. Our correspondence at this time with art centers in Germany may result in obtaining a few of these desired figures from those marts. The playground will be completed in the early spring. We are looking forward to the date when we can send out the invitation to the children 'to come and play.' Undoubtedly, they will love this garden of play and in all the years of their life remember the pleasant days."

Physical Education in Alabama

J. R. SHARMAN,

Director of Physical Education, State Department of Education, Montgomery, Alabama

I have been asked to tell you briefly of the program of physical education in the schools of Alabama and especially of the recreational phase of this program.

The Program—The health and physical education program that we have set up in the schools of Alabama is much the same as many other state programs. It includes:

1. Annual Health Examination
2. Morning Inspection
3. Relaxation Periods
4. Hygiene Instruction
5. Physical Activities

Content of Physical Education Program—The physical education program as we have formulated it is made up of what are usually spoken of as natural activities. We emphasize games, athletics, swimming, dancing, stunts, dramatics and recreational outing activities; the only formal activity that we recommend for all students is marching. In a few of the larger schools there are classes of individual gymnastics.

Time Allotment—Our state course of study requires a minimum of one 30-minute period each day for five days in the week for the elementary schools and a total of four periods a week in the junior high school, one period of which is used for hygiene instruction and three periods for physical activities. We have not, as yet, an absolute requirement in the senior high school. A considerable number of senior high schools, however, are carrying out the recommended program, covering a minimum of three periods each week.

Teachers—In most of the elementary schools the work is taught by the regular classroom teachers; in the city of Birmingham and a few other places the platoon type of organization is used and there is a special teacher in each elementary school. In the junior and senior high schools this work is usually assigned to a special teacher. A great many of these teachers, however, do not hold, and have not the qualifications to secure, special certificates in physical education. In most of the larger cities and towns there are supervisors of physical education.

An interesting procedure has been followed in some of our rural high schools that has seemed to get satisfactory and valuable results. All classes of the high school go on the playground and have their physical education period at the same time, with each teacher of the academic subjects having a group of pupils for physical education. This plan seems to build up rapidly an excellent school spirit, to develop a feeling of comradeship between the pupils and the teachers, and to democratize the point-of-view of both. However, it can readily be understood that this plan would not work in every situation. Its success depends largely upon the ability of the principal to inspire and lead his teachers in this phase of the school program.

Certification of Teachers—A teacher who expects to secure a special certificate to teach physical education in the high schools of Alabama must be a college graduate who has credit for at least thirty hours in physical education. To secure a special certificate to teach this subject in the elementary schools a teacher must have at least two years of professional preparation beyond high school graduation.

Every classroom teacher who receives a certificate on credentials must have credit for a course in physical and health education that covers at least forty-eight lessons, approved by the State Department of Education. After July 1, 1928, no certificate will be issued, renewed or extended to a teacher who has not successfully completed such an approved course. The announcement of this requirement was made in 1925 and we estimate that eight thousand out of a total of twelve thousand white teachers in the State have already had at least a three months' course in physical education.

Recent Legislation—If Alabama has made any contribution in our field I believe it is in the manner that physical education has been integrated with the entire school program in the education bill that our state legislature has recently passed. It seems to me that it is very important in the planning, the financing, and the administration of

school programs that physical education be considered and provided for just as any other phase of the school program, because physical education in many cases has heretofore apparently been to the school program somewhat like an appendix, that is, something just tacked on to the regular program. I believe that it is much better for physical education to be recognized as a regular part of the school program and to be financed through the regular school appropriations than for it to be financed and subsidized through special appropriations.

The education appropriation bill recently passed by our legislature provided about \$16,000,000 additional revenue for the public schools during the next four years. These appropriations do not include any specific subsidies for physical education. However, there are three funds provided that we hope will help stimulate the teaching of physical education throughout the state.

The first of these is the "Attendance Fund" of \$850,000 a year. This money is distributed to all counties and cities on the basis of aggregate attendance, provided that each county and city that participates in this fund carries out an approved attendance program and an approved physical education program. You will notice that this part of the law requires that a program of physical education that is approved by the State Board of Education be carried out by every city and every county participating in this fund. It does not specifically require that special teachers and supervisors be employed to carry out the program. The State Board of Education has authority to set up a program requiring special teachers and supervisors but it is not the present plan to require that such specialists be employed, because we believe that superintendents and boards of education can be convinced of the importance and value of having specialists in physical education as rapidly as we can secure well-qualified people for the positions at the salaries that will be paid.

Another fund that should be of considerable help to the physical education program is the "Equalization Fund" of \$900,000 a year. This fund serves to guarantee a minimum school program for a minimum term of seven months to every school in the State. In figuring the minimum program every group of thirty pupils in average daily attendance is designated as a "teacher unit." For every group of seventy-five "teacher units" a "supervisor or helping teacher

unit" is allowed. There are about twenty-five counties in the state that have 150 or more white "teacher units" and, therefore, are allowed two or more "helping-teacher units." The State Board of Education requires that the first "helping teacher" employed in each county must be a supervisor of the traditional elementary school subjects, but the second one may be a specialist in physical education. Several superintendents have already indicated their intention of using their second "helping-teacher unit" for a specialist in physical education.

The third fund that we hope may be of help to the physical education program is the "Teacher Training Equalization Fund" of \$200,000 a year. This fund is appropriated to the State Board of Education to be used in equalizing the teacher training load of the institutions of higher learning. We hope that part of this fund can be used for strengthening the major course in physical education that is given at the State College for Women at Montevallo and for establishing a major course for men at either the State University or the Polytechnic Institute.

We feel that we have a real opportunity in Alabama to plan and project a modern and comprehensive program of physical education that will provide an opportunity for the majority of the boys and girls in the state to participate in activities and situations that give desirable training in emotional control, instinctive expression, mental activity, and a hygienic routine of living.

Los Angeles' Newest Playground.—On May 4th the Los Angeles Playground and Recreation Department dedicated Vineyard Playground, the newest ground to be established. Addresses by city officials, the presentation of dance numbers by playground children, musical numbers, including a concert by the playground band, and similar events comprised the program.

A Festival of Negro Music.—On April 30th the Birmingham, Alabama, Park and Playground Board held a Festival of Negro Music. A choir of more than 300 voices and an orchestra of seventy-five took part. Negro folk songs, melodies and spirituals comprised the program.

In a Community of Seven Thousand

The possibility of maintaining successful and broad year round recreation system in a city as small as 7,000 people has sometimes been questioned. Winter Haven, Florida, however, has proved that by wise leadership and organization it is possible to conduct as comprehensive a program in a community of this size as in large cities.

The Department of Public Recreation was created in January, 1926, through the initiative of the American Legion. To finance the first year's work \$3,000 was appropriated by the city and \$7,000 by the Chamber of Commerce—two organizations which have been of the greatest possible assistance to the recreation movement. A Superintendent of Recreation was employed to take charge of the work.

The program was a success from the start, and after the first year's demonstration the city took over the work and financed it.

The report for the second year shows an exceedingly active program.

Athletics and Sports

There is a City League of Basketball with eight teams, which in 1927 played thirty-three games with 586 participants and over 6,000 spectators. The Twilight Baseball League of four teams played twenty-five games with 504 participants. Diamond Ball without doubt has been the outstanding event of the program. The game was introduced last July and six weeks later twenty teams were played with a record of 1,500 in attendance on several nights. The courts were lighted so that the games could be played at night, and this attracted huge crowds, many people coming from nearby towns to see the game.

Six tennis courts were maintained by the Department. These are private courts lent to the Department, which keeps them up. The game is immensely popular and is played at all seasons of the year. A total attendance for last year on the six courts was approximately 16,800. Two junior tournaments, one for girls and one for boys, as well as tournaments for adults were held.

Bathing and Swimming

The Department maintains a beach which is under supervision from June through September. During the warm months there is a daily average attendance of 250. Swimming instruction is given each day. A point system has been introduced whereby boys and girls may earn swimming medals. The winning of 150 points entitles a child to a gold medal; of 125 to a silver and of 100 points to a bronze.

Playground Activities

During the summer season a playground is maintained under leadership. During the school year after school play is conducted at the grammar school from 3:30 to 5:00.

Helping with the Physical Education Program

For two months assistance was given the physical education program of the school through the employment of a worker to develop a program of physical education in the third, fourth, fifth and sixth grades of the grammar school. The course of work consisted of two 45 minute periods each for every class of the school, about thirty classes taking part. Classes were taken out on the school playground and given a course of games.

Dramatics

A group of Little Theatre Community Players has been organized and a dramatic institute held.

Music

Winter Haven, through the leadership of the Department of Recreation, has a community chorus which last year produced the sacred cantata "Esther." A little symphony orchestra has also been organized. A music memory contest was arranged for pupils of the junior high school, in which 300 took part.

Girl Scouts

A group of Girls Scouts was organized a year ago. The outstanding event of this program was the provision of a camp for members of the troop through the courtesy of the Federated Women's Club, which loaned its camp to the Department. It cost about sixty-four cents a day per person to run the camp.

Polk County's Orange Festival

One of the outstanding events of the year was the conducting of the Orange Festival for the County. In connection with the event a Doll Show and Basketball Carnival were held and an Orange Packing Contest was run off.

Other Events

Other events have consisted of the Roller Skating Carnival, Kite Tournament, Easter Egg Hunt, a Model Boat Building, and a Pushmobile Contest. Archery and bait casting were introduced during the year, and pistol shooting teams organized. Seven lighted shuffleboard courts have been immensely popular and have drawn an estimated attendance of 31,050. Horseshoes, checkers and card playing, handcraft for women and similar activities have attracted many people.

The Department has given a great deal of service to other organizations in conducting game evenings, tournaments, picnics, lending material and taking charge of meetings.

Giving a Thought to the Backyard

"To encourage and aid Irvington citizens in beautifying their home grounds," is the purpose of the Department of Recreation, Irvington, New Jersey, in outlining a home grounds improvement contest. The plan involved the dividing of the town into six districts with a separate division for apartment houses. The plan of organization called for a general committee, a committee of judges and an advisory committee of people competent to give out information and answer questions regarding planting and similar objects.

Then came the important matter of getting every one to help. The cooperation of the Home and School League and similar organizations were secured; the local paper agreed to run a column on the contests and to carry a nature guide; the Boy Scouts helped by discovering unsightly obstructions. Circulars of information were distributed through the schools.

The contest centered about lawns and gardens. Lawns were judged on May 15 and September 15; gardens, on August 15. Photographs were entered in the contest and there was also a contest for the best suggestions on general beautification. Trophies were awarded in each section and in the city at large.

The following score card was used:

LAWN SCORE CARD

Home Grounds Improvement Contest
Department of Public Recreation
Irvington, New Jersey, 1928

Name Address

TURF 25%		SHRUBBERY 35%		GENERAL 40%	
Uniformity, smoothness and grading, 5% .....	.....	Condition, 10% .....	.....	Harmony with building, 15% .....	.....
Thickness, 5 % .....	.....	Location, 10% .....	.....	Composition as a whole, 25% .....	.....
No weeds, 5% .....	.....	General Plan, 5% .....	.....	
Maintenance, 10% .....	.....	Maintenance, 10% .....	.....	
Total Score .....	.....	Total Score .....	.....	Total Score .....	.....

Grand Total Score.....

Dramatic Work at Hull House*

By

EDITH DE NANCREDE

Miss Addams, with her gift of seeing farther than most of us, was one of the very first people to found a "little theater" in this country. Because she believed so much in the great educational value of the drama, she built the Hull House Theater in 1901. From that date began the development of the present Hull House dramatics, and it is doubtless because it possessed these unusual facilities that Hull House has carried its dramatic work farther than most settlements.

Of course there had been dramatics at Hull House before the theater was built. The various clubs gave plays in the gymnasium, and there was a dramatic club composed of the best from each group. That dramatic club is the present Hull House Players, a group of people, some of them forty-five or fifty years of age, who have been acting together since 1899. They were originally almost entirely Irish, as was the neighborhood at the time the club was founded. Originally it also included one or two residents. I myself had the honor of being a member for a number of years. As time went by, the Players added new members of different nationalities, but the club is still largely Irish, and interested in Irish plays.

It is impossible to give a list of the many productions of the Hull House Players, which have averaged three a year for twenty-five years. During their earliest period, they gave such plays as Gilbert's "Engaged" and Waldauer's "Fanchon the Cricket." Later they produced a number of plays dealing with social questions. They were responsible for the first appearance in Chicago of "Pillars of Society," by Ibsen; "The Devil's Disciple," by Shaw; "The Tragedy of Nan," by Masefield; "The Work-House Ward," by Lady Gregory, and other Irish plays. During the last four years they have staged "Milestones," by Arnold Bennett; "Hindle Wakes," by Stanley Houghton, and notably "The Lower Depths," by Gorky. The membership at present numbers fifteen; and since the death of their founder,

Mrs. Laura Dainty Pelham, they have been working under the direction of one of their members, Mr. Morris J. Cooney.

But perhaps the younger groups demonstrate, even more clearly than do the Players, how right Miss Addams was in believing what most people now concede—that the drama is of the utmost value in educating and developing the young. All of the dramatic clubs, except the Players, were started as groups of very young children. There are at present six of these clubs: the Marionette Players, 24 to 30 years of age; the Mignonette Club, 18 to 24; the Pirouette Club, 15 to 18; the Harlequin Club, 11 to 14; the Ballarino Club, 8 to 11; the Baby Group, 4 to 8 years of age. They number in all 240 members. The oldest of these existing clubs, the Marionette Club, was founded nineteen years ago, and is composed of thirty young men and women. The majority of the members began as little children. Of course, new members have been added from time to time, especially in the last few years, in the form of husbands.

I am sure if you could see these dramatic groups and compare them with the more transient social groups or classes, you would immediately recognize the great difference between them. The chief reason for this difference is their close contact, during a number of years, with the House and its residents. But one of the interesting facts that dramatic work at Hull House has shown is the almost unique power a dramatic club has of holding a group of people together from childhood, through adolescence, and into maturity. We have so far found no other means so successful. The only other department which holds people from childhood until they are grown up is the music school, and it does so in fewer numbers and very rarely with the boys. Acting, on the other hand, seems to have a particular appeal for boys and young men, and in each group they usually outnumber the girls.

The need of some means of making life more interesting and beautiful, the need of something to stimulate the mind and the imagination, is peculiarly felt in a neighborhood such as that of

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Hull House. Many of the young people in our older clubs left school at the age of fourteen, and their chief intellectual stimulus since then has been gained in connection with their dramatic work. Someone once expressed amazement at the unusually large vocabulary of a certain young man who had left school at fourteen. But it was not really surprising when one considered that he had memorized hundreds of lines of such authors as Shakespeare, Sheridan, Galsworthy, Shaw, Yates, Housman, Barry, O'Neill, and Granville Barker.

Through such plays as "Midsummer Night's Dream," the "Sunken Bell," and "Prunella," with their opportunity for beautiful and imaginative settings and lovely incidental music, a real appreciation of beauty has been developed. Fortunately, there are several artists and musicians among the Hull House residents, and in the dramatic groups also there are young artists and musicians developed by our music school and our art school. The dramatic clubs are so much concerned for the beauty of their performances that they spend a large amount of time and energy, and all the money that they take in at their productions, upon costumes, scenery, and lighting. As all of the members of the older groups, including the director, work during the day, the painting of scenery and the experimenting in lighting, as well as all rehearsing, are done at night. Just before a play, the work on the stage frequently continues all night. The result of such devotion is that the Hull House productions are often quite beautiful to look at, and the music, performed by a quartette trained in the music school, lovely to listen to.

One very delightful dramatic development has been made possible through the co-operation of the music school. Several Reinecke and Humperdinck cantatas have been produced, as well as some original operettas with music by Miss Eleanor Smith, the head of the Hull House Music School. By combining the music school, the dramatic clubs, and the rhythmic dancing classes, delightful pantomimes have been achieved. In fact, one of the valuable functions of dramatics is, I think, the uniting of all the arts to produce an artistic whole.

As there are no appropriations to cover the costs of the production, except in plays given by children under fourteen, for which no money is charged, the clubs are forced to cover the expenses by the proceeds of the plays. Their

standard of production is so high, and they spend so much money upon costumes, scenery, and lighting, that although most of the work is contributed, the dramatic clubs are usually in financial difficulties. Whether it is that their taste is developed at the expense of their practical wisdom, or whether, as some of the business members affirm, it is impossible to cover the expenses of such elaborate productions with so few performances, and with tickets at such a low rate, the fact remains that our dramatic clubs are usually struggling to keep their heads above water.

The distinctive thing about Hull House dramatics is that they carry on during a number of years. It is drill that enables a child, through his lessons in dancing and rhythms, to move with grace and ease. He works only one hour a week, perhaps, but one hour a week for a number of years. We also make a great point of the use of the voice, of pronunciation and diction; and what could not possibly be taught in one play a year, can be inculcated in one play a year for ten years. And although Hull House has never made the slightest effort to produce professional actors, it has unconsciously produced several who are holding their own successfully on the professional stage. It is this drill over a period of years that we recommend. To do it successfully of course presupposes continuity in direction as well; but Hull House has a way of keeping its residents, and the same person has been in charge of this work since it started.

Dramatic clubs at Hull House are started as dancing classes of little boys and girls, from four to six years of age, with about forty children in a class. Because of the firm conviction of the dramatic groups that mixed nationalities are best, a point is made of this. Most of the Hull House social clubs incline to be all Italian or all Jewish or all Mexican. But all of the dramatic clubs are mixed, boasting as many as nine different nationalities. Folk dancing and rhythmic dancing form a very important part in the training, and are invaluable in teaching expression through the use of the body. The children are also encouraged to join the singing classes, for we aim at an all-round artistic development. Until the majority are eight years of age or over, the group is treated as a class rather than as a club. It meets for an hour each week to learn folk dances and Mother Goose dances, the latter giving excellent opportunities for acting. When small

children are needed in the older children's plays, these little children are used.

When a group reaches the age of eight, it is formed into a club. Thereafter the children give at least one play a year. In clubs of forty or more, it is necessary to produce more than one play in order to give the majority of the children a chance to act. The clubs meet every Saturday afternoon for an hour's dancing, followed by a short business meeting. The older clubs meet in the evening. A group often works three months on one play. All of the clubs have a decidedly social side, and give numerous parties, cotillions, and picnics, until the most of the members are thoroughly grown up and begin to marry and to settle down, when they become purely dramatic clubs.

The advantages of this method are many. Where the boys and girls have been used to playing and dancing together since babyhood, there is no silly self-consciousness when they have to make love to each other in a play. They are used to each other and understand each other, and that is one reason why they are especially good at ensemble acting. Then, as each group has had the same training, the older groups understand the younger, and are like big brothers and sisters, as indeed they often actually are. Frequently all the children in a family are scattered through the various clubs. When people ask, "How is it you can get boys of sixteen and seventeen and eighteen to dance these fancy dances?" the answer is, "Because they have danced them from babyhood and have seen all their older brothers and friends dance them."

I think that a progressive list of plays which have been given by one of our older clubs will give a better idea of their development than anything I can say. Beginning with such simple fairy plays as "Puss-in-Boots" and "Red-Riding-Hood and the Wolf," the club progressed through "Alice in Wonderland," "Hansel and Gretel," "The Blue Bird" of Maeterlinck, the "Sad Shepherd" by Ben Jonson, "Mid-Summer Night's Dream," "As You Like It," "Twelfth Night," and "The Taming of the Shrew," by Shakespeare, the "Land of Heart's Desire," by Yeats, "The Bourgeois Gentilhomme," by Moliere, "The Rivals," by Sheridan, "The Romancers," by Rostand, "Arms and the Man" and "Blanco Posnet," by Shaw, "A Night at an Inn," by Dunsany, "The Green Cockatoo," by Schnitzler, "The Sabine Women," by Andreyeff, "The

Sunken Bell," by Hauptmann, "The Mob," by Galsworthy, "What Every Woman Knows," by Barry, "Anna Christie," by O'Neill, "Prunella," by Housman and Granville Barker, and numerous others.

After observing for some twenty years remarkable results in the form of charming and interesting young people, I am fully convinced that there is no force so powerful as that of the drama in awakening and stimulating interest in intellectual and beautiful things. And to me it has an even greater quality, namely, that of freeing people from inhibitions and repressions. The drama is like Josephine Preston Peabody's "Piper," always letting things out of cages. Sometimes as I watch a young, self-conscious creature expanding and growing under the influence of the inspiring or poetic thoughts he is expressing, the drama appears like one of those Eastern magicians, who puts a seed into the earth, and immediately before one's eyes it sends forth roots, branches, leaves, buds, and opens wide a flower. I have seen as incredible growth on the Hull House stage. And it is because of such miracles that to me dramatic work has a fascination far exceeding the fascination of all other work, and that to it I dedicate all my leisure.

Thomas Adams, of the Regional Plan of New York, speaking recently at a luncheon of the New York City Recreation Committee, emphasized the fact that the failure to provide parks and playgrounds in New York City is steadily driving away some of the wealthy citizens who go to suburban areas for play space. Absence of parks and playgrounds is a blow to the financial future of any city. Families who leave for suburban areas take with them not only the taxes they would pay but also contributions they make to charities and churches, and the moral support they give civic interests of a community. Playgrounds are a part of the big general question of zoning and city planning.

Mr. Adams pointed out that the present park and playground space in New York City if used entirely for recreation would be inadequate. He urged that playgrounds be made beautiful because of the unconscious effect upon children's aesthetic nature.

Social Training Through Old American Folk Dances*

By BENJAMIN B. LOVETT.

The primary purpose of our work in the schools is social training.

Through the medium of the Old American Dances we teach children rhythm, grace and appreciation of good music; but we do more—we teach them to be courteous in a natural way. And this is one of the most difficult of all qualities to instill in youth.

The results have been gratifying. Children who have none of the social advantages in their homes respond to our methods in a way that surprises observers. A short while ago I discussed this phase of the work with a leading educator of a large city. As an experiment we selected one of the hardest schools in the city: hardest, that is, in the sense that it was in a district where the children had few of the privileges of normal social contact.

At the first lesson the boys would not even touch hands with the girls. They were boisterous, noisy and poorly disciplined. It has been our experience, however, that this very boisterousness is in reality an expression of timidity. Boys who are in a new and strange environment try to hide their embarrassment in one of two ways: either they become painfully shy and silent or they become loud and disorderly. Both are symptoms of timidity, and this timidity is one of the first things overcome by our work.

At the third lesson the boys of this test school marched in quietly with the girls; they bowed to the teacher, took their places in line, and went through the dances with a zest and precision which would have done credit to a far older class. Their teacher later reported that the deportment of the pupils showed astonishing improvement as a result of the lessons: they were more courteous in their homes, more gentlemanly on the street, and displayed greater willingness to cooperate in their

school work than before. If this instance were exceptional it would, perhaps not be worth mentioning, but it is not exceptional, it is typical.

The work gives the boys and girls a new vision of social life. It gives them ease of manner, which is the hardest of all assets for youngsters to acquire. Through the dances they lose self-consciousness and acquire self-confidence.

There are also other advantages. The children are taught to walk properly (walking exercises form a part of each lesson); they are taught correct physical carriage; they are given training in *delsarte*—the harmonious opposition of hands, arms, head and feet. Even if the social training were eliminated entirely the work would still prove valuable through this feature of physical culture.

The work is not limited to normal children. With the unfortunates—the crippled, the blind and the deaf—we have had remarkable success. At schools for cripples the work has been found of value in spastic cases, where the sense of balance is impaired. Children who could hardly walk without staggering or falling were helped by their increasing sense of rhythm to overcome some of the worst tendencies of their affliction, as a stutterer, by beating time, is helped over his speech impediment. Blind children take special pleasure in the dances. It delights them to know they can do things normal children can do, and they perform the movements with remarkable ease and grace. Deaf children likewise respond quickly. They receive the beat of the measures through vibration from the floor. A few months ago we had an exhibition by deaf and dumb children. They danced quadrilles, waltzes, schottisches, and polkas perfectly, so perfectly indeed that the spectators could hardly believe the youngsters could not hear.

Pageants and Interest to the Home Beautiful Exposition.—Two pageants were features of the Home Beautiful Exposition held in Boston, April 28th-May 5th. Gowns from the cedar chests of many old families, some of them dating back to Pilgrim days, provided a colorful setting for the fashion pageant presented on May 2nd, entitled the "Progress of Modes and Music." A second pageant, "Quest of the Holy Grail," was presented by a cast of 300 members of King's Daughters of Norfolk County.

*One of the most enjoyable features of the Recreation Congress at Memphis was the series of lessons in old American dances taught by Mr. Benjamin B. Lovett. This was possible through the courtesy of Mr. Henry Ford.

An Adult Recreation Survey in Pontiac

By

A. E. GENTER

In order to obtain first hand information as to what the adults of Pontiac were doing with their leisure time, the Department of Recreation recently sent out a questionnaire to city employees, a group of mothers, a luncheon club of businessmen, and the school teachers. The questionnaire contained the following list of activities: tennis, swimming, hiking, rowing, canoeing, horseback riding, skating, coasting, picnics, fishing, bowling, basketball, football, track, soccer, gymnastics, playing with children, golf, automobile riding, theater, movies, dancing, card playing, reading, clubs, music, lectures, worship, art, and attending athletic events.

Each person was asked to check the activities in which he had taken an active part during the past year. Returns were received from 187 city employees, including policemen, firemen, engineers, clerks, nurses, social workers and city officials; 44 mothers at a P. T. A. meeting; 43 business men at a luncheon club meeting; and 152 women school teachers.

The city employees were classified according to sex. Of the 142 men answering the request for information, 98 were spectators; 90 spent their leisure in the auto; 80 at cards; 79 at theater; 77 at fishing. Seventy-four enjoyed baseball, 70 bowling, 70 movies, and 69 dancing. Eighty-one per cent of the men who checked bowling are members of the City Employees' Bowling League. Furthermore the men employees of the city are the only ones to rate bowling within the first ten activities. Thirty-seven women of the 45 women employees of the city who answered the questionnaire, danced, 36 attended theaters, 31 the movies. Thirty voted for automobile riding, 29 for reading, 29 for picnics, 28 for cards, 27 for swimming, 25 for coasting, while 24 preferred to be spectators.

Of the 44 mothers, only 25 played with children, while 36 went automobile riding, 36 enjoyed reading, 34, picnics, 31, worship, 26, movies, 26, cards, 21, theaters, 21, spectators, and 19, swimming.

Card playing was checked by 34 of the 43 business men as their leading recreational activity;

33 attended theaters; 32 went automobile riding; 30 enjoyed dancing; 29 were spectators. Twenty-eight cited golf, 27, movies, 26, reading, 23, swimming and 21 picnicing.

The 152 school teachers listed picnicing as the only active activity among the first ten; 146 checked reading; 143, auto riding; 135, worship, 134, the theater, 128, lectures; 126, the movies, 121, picnics, 120, card playing, 102, music, and 98 dancing.

The first ten activities for the 426 persons answering the form were: 331, auto riding; 303, theater; 294, reading; 288, cards; 280, movies, 265, spectators; 260, picnics; 254, worship; 251, dancing; 221, lectures. Compare these returns with 37 school children of the Eastern Junior High School and note the number of active pleasures enjoyed by the children. Of the 37 children, 35 checked baseball; 35, the movies; 30, gym; 28, skating; 24, coasting; 22, swimming; 22, spectators; 20, hiking; 20, auto riding; and 19 rowing. Thus the children rate seven active enjoyments among the first ten while the adults rate only one.

Although the returns were not large, a fair cross section of adult life was represented and the results offer some interesting facts to the recreation profession.

1. Recreation varies with occupation.
2. Recreation varies with age.
3. Men take more active recreation than women.
4. There is a great need for organized active recreation among adults.
5. Children should be taught the fundamental skills of skating, bowling, golf, swimming, coasting and hiking, which have carry-over values in adult life.
6. The leisure time activities in which adults take part tend to be of a social nature rather than competitive.

A number of colleges in addition to holding play days for themselves have provided the leadership for play days for the community in which they are located.

The New Leisure*

BY MARY CORRIN WINSTON

A short time ago before a crowded audience of women a lecture was delivered on "The New Leisure" by a well known educator and writer. Being myself neither a member of the so-called leisure class—which is a rather hardworking one when all is said and done—nor yet of any federation for the limitation of my working day, but being merely the mother of four children and without the assistance of even one maid, my imagination was considerably intrigued to discover in what this new leisure consisted and how it might be applied. So, for one hour I listened while the clear, well-modulated voice ran on, often humorously, to explain that by the aid of modern inventions which lighten labor not only in the factory but in the home and by the unionized hours of employment, a greater period of leisure each day was possible than under a heretofore oppressive schedule. "Oppressive" was chosen intentionally, no doubt, to convey the sense of how heavily the old method weighed upon both mind and body.

The lecturer now proceeded to suggest how this leisure, which had come upon us more or less suddenly, might be filled to advantage by choosing a hobby—the study of birds, for instance, of pottery, period furniture, art in its many manifestations, mountain climbing, authorship. And that this taste for a hobby might not degenerate into a passing fancy but become the habit of a lifetime, it was advisable to lead one's children early in life along this path, as a three-fold purpose was thereby attained—the useful employment of an otherwise idle hour, the acquisition of valuable knowledge, and of worthwhile friendships. A method touched upon where children were concerned to arouse a dormant interest or to pursue one already aroused was that of visiting museums and art galleries. Nor was this method to be confined to the world within the museum, as that without likewise presented wide opportunities.

Now all of the foregoing and much that has not been included for lack of time and space, was admirable and especially appreciated by those in the audience who had been attempting, more or less successfully, to develop this taste for a hobby either in themselves, in their children, or in both. But certain factors necessary to the proper de-

velopment of the hobby as a habit and certain others which are limiting, if not completely nullifying the benefit of the New Leisure, were either given a casual mention only or omitted altogether.

Little stress was laid upon the great necessity of keeping the child's interest alive by the labor of his own wits and hands. Visits to galleries and museums should occupy a place of supplementary usefulness only by assisting the child to further expand an idea which he has already conceived and is attempting to develop. Nothing in the world is easier than to arouse the interest of any normal, active child; it will respond like the strings of a harp to almost any subject under heaven—the difficulty lies in making that interest a "going proposition." To see his hobby develop into something which attracts worthy attention, because of its originality of treatment, or its beauty, or its value, gives him a glow of satisfaction and a sense of attainment which he will never forget and that will be of the greatest assistance to him in other lines of achievement.

Where practicable, opportunities to demonstrate and talk upon the subject in which he is so much interested should be given him both at home and at school; the latter can generally be accomplished by enlisting the sympathies of his teachers whom I have found to be, in nine cases out of ten, most responsive and who, from their own broad angle of observation, have much to offer. This method develops two valuable qualities at an age when self-consciousness has not yet become a stumbling-block—the power to face an audience with confidence and to lay before it in an interesting, intelligent manner, the high lights of his subject. For no one holds the attention of his audience better than he who has something to say and can say it with brevity and ability.

One factor altogether omitted was the widespread tendency among mothers and other caretakers—founded upon a perfectly human characteristic—to take the completion of a duty or occupation out of a child's hands and to finish it themselves because of his clumsiness or slowness lest the crude results bring adverse criticism, not realizing that by so doing, they are sowing in him the seeds of discouragement, a lack of initiative and of self-confidence, the positive side of which qualities he is going to need in large doses in order to meet the world on equal terms.

And there is another characteristic too often practiced by capable mothers—possibly because they *are* capable—which is apt to go hand in hand

*Courtesy of *Progressive Education*, Oct.-Nov.-Dec., 1927.

with the preceeding one—to so closely supervise and plan for every moment of a child's hours outside of school that in many cases—unless he be of a very independent, self-reliant nature and protests—he grows more or less dependent upon others for his entertainment with a corresponding inability to develop and enjoy any resources he may have within himself. It is this quality within the child which today more than ever before needs encouragement that we may successfully combat the growing tendency to seek entertainment outside the home.

The question naturally arises—what can we, as the guardians of youth, offer in addition to amusement and a hobby, to counteract unwholesome but enticing outside influences? I would suggest a discriminating literary taste. I would even go so far as to place it first among the counter-irritants for no better entertainment or companionship exists than that which lies between the covers of a good book. To develop this taste in a child, employ the same means that the outside amusements employ so lavishly—the appeal through his imagination to his inborn love of adventure and of action. Look for these features—wisely handled—when choosing his books. Even a restless child will gradually and painlessly acquire a taste for knowledge so disguised—like a pill in jelly.

Once this taste becomes a habit he will never lose it nor wonder what to do with his idle hour. His trouble will be to find an idle hour in this New Leisure!

Radio Broadcasting, Los Angeles

"Seventy-five cards and letters of appreciation in one day from radio fans who enjoy our musical program make us feel the desirability of providing musical recreation for the citizens of Los Angeles," writes Glenn M. Tindall, Supervisor of Music of the Playground and Recreation Department of Los Angeles. Many of these cards were from shut-ins who could not visit recreation centers and others were from people who had never taken advantage of the recreational facilities offered.

Radio broadcasting has become a recognized activity of the Department. Regular weekly programs are presented over three local stations, and there is close cooperation between the numerous

Southern California radio stations and the Playground and Recreation Department. Practically every station in Southern California assisted the city in its Christmas carol singing plans. Musical organizations from the playgrounds have played over every station of the city and in several stations of the surrounding towns. Radio programs are amplified on the municipal beaches for the throngs in the sand and surf.

In the regular series of radio programs talks are given by leaders in the recreation movement, music is provided by individuals and groups from the playground, and music appreciation is developed. The weekly harmonica lesson by radio is an activity which has received much favorable comment. The Music Storytelling Hour, one of the most recent radio activities, is proving very popular with children.

Optimists Sponsor Playground in Knoxville

The Optimist Club of Knoxville, Tennessee, has taken over as its particular service to the local recreation movement, the beautification and improvement of one of the city playgrounds. The production of John Drinkwater's play, *Abraham Lincoln*, netted sufficient funds to finance the building of a frame structure 44 x 16 feet with an open portico in the center. There are rest rooms for both sexes, a handcraft room and an equipment or supervisor's room. In the cement floor of the portico is a tablet of Tennessee marble bearing the inscription:

THIS FIELD HOUSE
ERECTED BY THE
OPTIMIST CLUB
OF KNOXVILLE
1928

IN THE INTEREST OF FAIR PLAY
AND GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP

The next project at the Club will be the construction of the wading pool and some additional apparatus. Ultimately the fencing of the total area will be accomplished.

As the Optimist Club is in charge of Boys' and Girls' Day Out-of-Doors, the playground will be renamed and the shelter house dedicated on that day. Appropriate games and contests will mark the occasion.

Growth of Adult Education

A REVIEW OF RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Recreation leaders who think of the needs of the leisure time life of their communities in terms more inclusive than a mere program consisting of a certain number of opportunities for physical activities, games and sports, or even musical and dramatic activities, are increasingly interested in the adult education movement which is making considerable headway both in this country and in other countries.

One with a predominantly recreational point of view is almost moved to resent somewhat in books and studies that are explicitly on the adult educational subject, the purely educational standards which seem always to be set up. Often in the best of these books there is a sort of damning with faint praise various social and recreational activities which constitute the great bulk of the work done in school centers. One would not, of course, want to minimize intellectual things, but it does seem too bad that all our standards must be so intellectual and so serious-minded. Must we always be measured by our ability to talk to the waiter in French, or to tell the language universally spoken in Madagascar? Is there no value in the emotions, in their expression and in their control? Is there no value in just pure happiness? We admire it, almost worship it, in children. It seems to be regarded as useless and almost unworthy in adults. Isn't there any value in being able to give social life, in being able to create something—a picture or a tune or a game or a smile? Is there not someone, somewhere, who can write a moving book on the philosophy that recognizes life as a whole, not merely an intellectual life or a physical life or an emotional life, but an all-round, abundant life?

STUDY OF ADULT EDUCATION IN BUFFALO

The American Association for Adult Education, organized to help guide and stimulate this movement in this country, has just published the study of the adult education facilities existing in the city of Buffalo. A grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York made the study possible. It was carried on with the cooperation of the Buffalo Educational Council, which consists of

representatives of the various agencies in Buffalo accepting responsibility for various phases of adult education. The list of agencies is, in itself, interesting and significant:

Albright Art Gallery
American Institution of Banking
Atelier Rectagon
Buffalo Historical Society
Buffalo Home Bureau
Buffalo Musical Foundation
Buffalo Players
Buffalo Public Library
Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences
Canisius College
Buffalo State Normal School
Buffalo Symphony Society
Charity Organization Society
City Federation of Women's Clubs
Department of Education
Erie County League of Women Voters
Erie County Sunday School Council
Grosvenor Library
Red Cross
Settlement Houses:
Babcock Community House
Jewish Community House
Memorial Chapel
Neighborhood House
Neighborhood House Settlement
Welcome Hall
Westminster Community House
University of Buffalo
Y. M. C. A.
Y. W. C. A.

The point of view of the study is exclusively educational in the formal sense of the term. Mention is made, though only incidentally, of the social use of school buildings, settlement houses. The formal classes alone are recorded. A noteworthy showing is made in the twenty-nine institutions studied.

Courses were offered in about 200 different departments of knowledge in such widely diversified fields as accounting, Americanization, astronomy, auto repair, biology, calculus, carpentry, contracts, dramatics, dressmaking, ethics, gymnasium, Latin life drawing, music, philosophy, plumbing, real

estate, sociology, etc. About 1200 instructors taught a total of over 36,000 students in formal classes. In addition, over 11,000 more were enrolled in formal discussion groups having a regular program of study. In addition, the attendance at the art galleries and museums was nearly 190,000; attendance at lectures and exhibits given under the auspices of various institutions in the Council was over 700,000; 188,000 drew books from the public library and nearly 90,000 used another library for reference purposes only. "It is estimated that one out of eight of the adults of the city of Buffalo was actually enrolled for study or discussion in formal class or informal but closely organized group."

The motives actuating these attendants were generally not recreational. A careful census of some 11,000 of these students indicates that one in every twenty only attends "solely for pastime"; one in thirty "to secure advancement in his vocation"; two out of each hundred to receive credit toward some degree; one in twelve gives no reason; four out of five attend "solely for further education." This is held to include further education along general or technical lines, cultural education, desire for greater economic power and desire for social prestige. The elimination of those who have had only the meagerest sort of educational training, either in this country or abroad before immigration, however, gives a higher percentage of those who attend evening courses for cultural or social or recreational motives. Among high school and college graduates, the social aspects of both evening and afternoon classes are important. The age period of greatest attendance is the period between eighteen and twenty-one years of age.

The adult education program enrolled something over 4,000 people in classes in physical education including team games, group games, formal gymnastics, folk and gymnastic dances, swimming and first aid. The report bemoans a lack of adequate opportunity for both musical and dramatic activities such as those afforded in their respective lines by the Buffalo Art Gallery, the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, the Buffalo Historical Society. The Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences is especially active. In its museum are constantly arranged exhibits of scientific material accumulated by the Society from all ends of the world: plants, insects, shells, fossils, birds, vertebræ, minerals, pottery are included in the collections. It is especially active through a corps of

lecturers who, accompanied by exhibits, speak on a variety of nature topics in neighborhood centers all through the city and at a regular series of Friday night lectures with slides and pictures, held at one of the high schools. Large audiences attend these lectures. The Society also maintains a collection of slides which are lent to individuals and clubs and schools with lanterns. It contributes a regular series of scientific articles to the local press.

The report also summarizes and studies the opportunities for collegiate and professional training, for vocational training, for the study of the fine arts, as well as specific scientific, literary, artistic, home-making and commercial courses available.

This Buffalo report is a manual of a single city, largely statistical, with interpretive comments.

WHY STOP LEARNING?

Dorothy Canfield Fisher has written a book, "Why Stop Learning?" which is national in its scope and which is written with the splendid literary skill and sensible, shrewd, human wisdom for which Mrs. Fisher is famous.

She has become interested in adult education and the book which she has written is the most comprehensive and the most informative yet available. Her chapter headings indicate the range of her study. Then she recounts the doings of the correspondence schools with all their potential powers of service marred by a history of commercialism and inadequacy, only recently being lived down. The rising standard of realistic ethics operating in all American business affairs is operating here, too, so that "the shamelessness of the rotten members of the new profession will not long be allowed to befoul the very name of correspondence schools, which should be one of the best devices needed and invented by democracy to keep its citizenry up to the necessary standard of information."

The free public libraries receive an especially cordial word of appreciation. She pays full tribute to the skill and energy and technique of the librarians and their working hypothesis, "if the habit of reading can be established, ordinary folks, or some of them, or perhaps their children, will, little by little, climb up the slope towards good books." . . . "In the vanguard of this tumultuous, inharmonious advance towards the mystery of the future, march—sure and ardent in the midst of our clouded modern doubt, impecunious

in the midst of our stifling parvenu prosperity, the new Franciscans—the American librarians. Unlike most of us, they know where they want to go, and they are on their way.”

“They are fighting for the privilege of flinging open to all the world the doors of the storehouse of civilization’s experience and aspirations, to put in our hands the golden treasures of beauty and sadness and hope and resignation and information and fun and philosophy and understanding. “They can do no more. The result depends upon us, the mob.”

Women’s clubs with drama departments, public health departments, current events, science departments, library departments and all the rest of the regular Women’s Club program form another chapter. “American middle-class, married women were thus the first moderns to encounter in *large numbers* the perilous conditions which probably lie ahead of us all in a competently functioning half-way intelligently run industrial society: the disappearance of enforced and absorbing occupation; physical safety which removes the excitement and stimulus of physical risk and, most dangerous of all, the possession of that sharpest of two-edged swords, leisure time.”

The General Federation of Women’s Clubs now numbers two million members. “I cannot think of any historical movement to which I can compare this spontaneous turning of American married women towards study.” . . .

“The middle-class American women, spontaneously risen to try to free themselves from ignorance and narrowness, never received, so far as I have been able to find out, half-a-minute’s serious attention from any educator worthy of the name . . .”

“Well, it may have been the salvation of the movement, this total neglect by professional educators. . . . Above all, professional educators usually succeed in smothering out the one living spark without which education is impossible, the spark of spontaneous interest and intellectual curiosity.” . . .

“It was without the slightest help from any member of those ‘upper’ or ‘intellectual’ classes which naively claim the professional monopoly of ideas. Confronted with the challenge of leisure time, two millions among the daughters of our pioneers did not devote themselves to elaborate clothes, or fishing, contemplation or card playing or religious ritual, or multiplied love-affairs, all of them traditional human methods for dealing

with leisure time. No, with an amazingly common instinct, this great number of them turned towards as much intellectual life as they knew how to get.” . . .

“No leaders.” “No standardization.” “Here is one huge, very much alive American activity which is not and never has been respectful of the American principle of having everything like everything else.” . . . “No publicity as a help to start the movement.”

“The cooperation between colleges, universities and Women’s Clubs is getting closer and closer, but always with the free, almost amazingly independent, flexible, unstandardized tradition which Women’s Clubs alone among big American movements, have created and maintained.”

“They have well-outfitted small stages for the concerts and plays which are one result of their classes in music-study and the drama; and they have well-equipped rooms for the teaching of domestic science.”

“In spite of their prosperity, the social side of their club life has not, little by little, usurped the leading place. They still expect and demand from their clubs intellectual stimulus and food for intellectual growth.” . . . “They still present the rarest of spectacles—well-dressed, well-to-do, mature people who are not entirely satisfied with themselves, with humility of mind enough to admit that they need more education than they have, with every intention of trying to get it.”

“What is going to happen now? During the last half-century, middle-class married women were called upon to manufacture neither in nor out of their homes, and hence formed the leisure-class. . . . We are now told that this fifty-year vacation was an oversight, and that the roaring tide of commercial efficiency will soon sweep them into money-making along with all other adults, because none can be spared if the sacred banner of material prosperity is to wave on high. What will happen to Women’s Clubs? When all women have daily office hours will the study classrooms and the auditoriums of their club buildings be deserted? Will women, too, take to golf? Or will they go on trying to learn something?”

Home study clubs, lyceums and chautauquas receive brief mention. The author quotes Professor Fisher of Yale: “The Chautauqua movement has probably done more towards keeping American public opinion informed, alert and un-

biased than any other movement." And she quotes the *Manchester Guardian*: "The local Chautauqua saves many a little town from that dullness and stagnation which is the lot of little towns in whatever continent." Mrs. Fisher herself says, "What is shameful in the matter is, of course, that an audience of five or six million Americans is left to people who wish to make money out of their desire to improve their understanding; that statesmen, educational leaders, men and women of vision do not use this tool, ready-made to their hands. . . . The late W. J. Bryan may not have understood much of what scholarship meant, but he was certainly one of the most expert broadcasters of propaganda who ever lived. And he used the Chautauqua—with extraordinary effect. He was said to be good for forty acres of parked Fords whenever he spoke."

"In America vast numbers of people are emerging into enough economic ease to share this impulse (for more information, for more culture). The machinery for getting what they want is now better organized than ever before. This will certainly result in a national culture of some sort. Will it be good or bad? It will probably be as good as we deserve."

University extension courses enlist 200,000 students over and above a regular college registration of 750,000 and the commercial correspondence school registration of two million. The mortality rate of the university correspondence courses is high. Thirty-five to forty per cent. of those who register do not finish their work.

Workers' education has been of three general kinds. First, technical training provided by employers chiefly to increase specific industrial efficiency—"pointed education." Second, "class education," the workers' attempt to equip themselves with the intellectual tools to escape from exploitation, to secure more nearly their fair share of power and prosperity and social consideration. And third, the experimental beginnings of general and cultural and all-round education of university grade and provided, without labeled class or any other bias, to working men—experiments such as the Bryn Mawr Summer School and the similar undertakings at Wisconsin and Barnard, the Workers' Education Bureau, the Forums, the People's Institute, and the embryonic folk schools and people's colleges just started in this country. "One's pulse quickens at the possibilities in any or all of these new educational experiments whose intention is to break down this tragic, old division

(between those who work and those who think) by opening the world of thinking to those who work. And yet the tick-tock of the human spirit, swinging from hope to fear, carries one back to the sick wonder if perhaps the virtue has not gone out of 'work' in the old sense of meaningful contact with reality, because the infinitely subdivided work of any one industrial worker is no longer visibly creative. Perhaps working people may not be able to contribute to our collective culture that traditional grasp on reality which has been the priceless quality of their class, because little by little they are themselves losing it. Perhaps workers are turning to abstract ideas and 'education' in an attempt to get back from books that deep hold on life and understanding of it which they can no longer get from life itself; and so are simply no better off than the rest of us who have not made a very good job of getting from education what we no longer can get from life."

Museums, artistic and scientific, are only beginning to be energetic in taking their treasures and their knowledge to the people with encouraging results.

"No wonder there is alarm and hostility among the older esthetes who have never before been conscious of the many-headed as an element in their work. They admit the glorious possibilities for a great regeneration of art in new ideals but those possibilities are clouded for them by piercing questions, tragic doubts. They do not realize that their uneasiness, their hopes, questions, doubts, are a part of every thoughtful modern's consciousness. They state in terms of their own profession the problem of the modern world, and think it is peculiarly theirs: 'Appreciation of art is always confined to a minority,' they cry, and truly enough, 'Why try to force it upon the masses?' They do not see that full appreciation of any of the finest things of life is always confined to a minority, that democracy does not deny that axiom, but is trying, for the first time, to find that minority, and not to limit it more than nature has already done."

BULLETINS OF THE WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR ADULT EDUCATION

The World Association for Adult Education publishes a series of bulletins descriptive of the development of the movement in various countries in the world and containing reports and papers and addresses embodying something of the

spirit of the movement, chiefly in Europe. Principal L. P. Jacks of Manchester College, Oxford, has voiced some of the hopes and aspirations of the movement: "The other night I was listening to a very remarkable performance of community singing, and the thought flashed across my mind, and I hope it was not altogether foolish, that somebody without knowing it had discovered a potent means of promoting harmony and good temper and the spirit of friendly cooperation among the masses of mankind. Adult education is a larger instance of the same kind."

"Wisdom and skill are two names for the same thing at different stages of its growth. What we call wisdom when we look at it from the side of knowing becomes skill when we look at it from the side of doing. Skill is simply wisdom in action. Wisdom is skill in the making; the wisdom which has not yet developed into skill is only half grown; and if there is any form of wisdom you know of which cannot be developed in some corresponding skill, which stops short, so to speak, at the stage of knowing, and persistently refuses to be carried into the stage of doing, there we have the best of reasons for doubting whether it is wisdom at all . . . Knowledge of the best that has been thought and said is incomplete; it lacks its crown and glory until we have translated it into the best that can be done."

"You educate a human being most effectively, not by giving him a culture which he can only make use of in his leisure time, but by training him to achieve excellence in what he is doing in his working time . . . The operation of earning one's living and the operation of cultivating one's soul is treated in this system of education, not as two operations, but as one. A grand faith inspires these people, a faith which rises at times to almost a mystical enthusiasm. It is believed that by right methods of education the whole work of industrial civilization can be transformed from a burden which crushes mankind into a culture which ennobles. Dr. Peabody told me a pathetic story which illustrates the point. He was once called to the death-bed of an industrial worker—a man who for the greater part of his life had been a mere cog in the machinery of production. 'Don't talk to me about dying,' said the man, 'I have been dead for thirty years.' That is the terrific evil which our new educationalists are fighting, under no illusion as to the magnitude of the task before them, knowing well that it is a task for giants and yet with a mystic faith in

them that looks forward to ultimate victory."

"Such is the principle on which I conceive our movement to be founded; the transformation of the wisdom of life into the skill of life; the marriage of education and labor; the linking up of art with work; the operation of earning one's living and saving one's soul, not two operations, but one. In a word—education for life."

Professor A. E. Heath of the University of Bristol further remarks: "Under modern industrial conditions in which workers engage in the repetition of mechanical processes some compensating adjustment to enable them to live fuller lives is a necessary corollary to democracy. Specialization, in all fields, seems to have come to stay. But it produces that disastrous state of affairs in which everyone (in Mr. Bernard Shaw's phrase) knows how to read but no one knows what to read. Full understanding is only possible if there is at the same time relevant activity and feeling. But it is equally true that blind drudgery, activity without leisure and without reflection, is fatal—even to the highest forms of action. I cannot help feeling that the need for the deliberate provision of compensating adjustments suitable to the special conditions of the modern world is entering increasingly as a factor into men's views on education in general."

Much of the activity in the Adult Education Movement in England seems to be group and social activity, club life in residence, people's "homes," and so forth, in which formal lectures, educational discussions, social, cultural and recreational opportunities are part of the "curriculum," seem to be fairly common and they have particular attractiveness and success. The popular homes in Holland provide much club life, "chess and draughts clubs, traveling clubs, a natural history club, a photography club, a radio club and a debating club . . . Then there are choirs and theatrical and orchestral clubs and they have a stimulating effect on the members' own activity and of late, dancing and the culture of popular dancing have been a feature in these homes."

"Travel as a means of adult education has certainly a value of its own. . . . Already the introduction of the bicycle has done wonders in the breaking-up of old barriers and, in Holland, one inhabitant in three has a bicycle at his disposal. . . . Traveling groups were thus made a special feature of the Popular Homes' movement, the work appealing also strongly to the Socialist Workers' Institute. But it has grown into quite

a separate movement with the foundation of the Dutch Travelers' Society, which has at present more than 50,000 members and arranges for travels even as far as Java and America."

The educational settlements in England (which are groups of adult students, "living together" for social and educational purposes and which should not be confused with the settlements as understood in this country) have found similar success in social and participatory activities. "In a number of cases the young adults between eighteen and twenty-five years of age have formed clubs of their own with a room for games and recreative pursuits as well as lectures, debates and classes. . . . The arts take a prominent part in settlement life. Classes in the appreciation of music and drama are held in the ordinary course of things. But active work in these forms of aesthetic education is the main interest of all concerned. Several settlements have groups of water-color painters. Greek dancing, eurhythmics, and folk dancing are growing in their appeal. Choral and orchestral work is carried on here and there, and at Letchworth has resulted in the full operatic production, for a week, of Purcell's long-neglected *Dido and Aeneas*. Drama does not mean for settlement folk the existence of parties of 'amateur actors' who perform sketches to amuse other people, but serious work in the study and production of Greek plays, Shakespeare, modern dramatists. . . . Besides the actual players, groups are busy on the making of scenery, costume and properties, the preparation of appropriate music and, if necessary, dances and the presentation of these in a way that will help the whole community to appreciate drama as an expression of human experience and ideals."

This from a letter written by a working man: "I believe that this education of the spirit is the real need of my own class today. Let other classes speak for themselves. I know what modern industry means in terms of monotonous routine tasks. I know what a working-class home-life means, with few outlets for emotional 'release' save the 'pub' and the 'chapel.' I know the mental apathy and the crippled spirit they engender. I have spent my life fighting against this state of mind and temper, both in myself and in my fellows. The working-man's first instinct is to distrust beauty when he is made to see it. Talk to him of what life means to you, and he will confide to his neighbor—behind your back—that you are a bit funny sometimes!

"I therefore conclude that what the working-man needs today is not more cramming, but digestive medicine. Not more education, but the vision to use what little education he already possesses. This is the essential. By all means let him have his clear path from the day school to the university; but don't let it become, in the savage description of one working-man, a clear path from the cradle to the grave for you may unfit him for the humdrum industrial life without finding for him that compensation which makes any life a matter for joy and gratitude. We are sour dough awaiting leaven. Give us the real education of an informed, sympathetic and vital spirit—the yeast of life which will transform the sour dough into living bread. And, incidentally, in the happiest, easiest fashion, we shall, pursuing the one thing needed, find all these other things, mere knowledge and intellectual equipment, added unto us.

"This is not theory or hearsay, this is dramatic 'release.' I have proved it myself and seen and helped others to prove it. I believe that the most valuable result of the work at the Industrial Theatre was that it allowed, nay demanded, that the workpeople-players should break their shells and 'come out of themselves.' This, to me, is the first and all-sufficient justification of the drama. Before a player can be anything but a stick he must try, at the cost of violence to his timid reserve, to become someone else. He must conquer his inbred repression, rouse his dormant spirit, practice insight and a sympathetic understanding of the 'other fellow,' and the pleasure of this, the freedom and relief it brings in its train, will result in the practice of the imaginative faculty off the stage as well as on. As one workman puts it, 'It's no use trying to be somebody else unless you try to feel what he feels.' Another description of this sensation of release is most pithy. Said one of my actors in *The Merchant of Venice*, 'Eh, I've been miles away from myself tonight, and I feel pounds lighter for it.'"

In one of the German Adult Education experiments particularly for women they have four groups. "The Fourth Group, 'No one is Useful to Whom Joy Is Denied,' serves to cover the need of girl workers. These girls want to enjoy life after the monotony of the day's work. By various means an attempt is made to draw attention to the difference between true and false pleasures. This is not done theoretically but by experience. It is the most popular group of all. Singing and Play Acting have developed into the arrangement

of general festivities and gatherings. . . . Very popular, indeed, almost a fashion, has it become to take up gymnastics which are the necessary reaction and supplement to sedentary work. . . . This group, too, trains the eye for beauty. A class: 'Art or Trumpery' attempts by handwork, weaving, bast-plaiting, to combine simplicity with beauty and practical usefulness; colors and shapes are carefully chosen and attention devoted to dress and home decoration. Individual taste is cultivated as against mass production displayed in the shops. But the work begun is often put aside and only completed when an impetus is brought to bear from outside in the shape of an exhibition of handwork or the like."

The Recreation Department and the Churches

"Local recreation systems have a very definite challenge in the church recreation problem. I believe that local executives should make it their business gradually to get in touch with the church groups in the city and assist them in organizing and planning their work so that it may meet the need of the group in question and that they may make use of their facilities to the best possible advantage. Churches are keen to receive help and suggestions from us and will cooperate in every possible way to help us with our particular projects."

This, in general, is the point of view of the recreation executives who responded to the inquiry made by the Association, "How far are local recreation systems helping the individual churches with their recreation programs for their members or for the people living in their neighborhoods?"

SERVICE THROUGH RECREATION INSTITUTES

Perhaps the most effective form of service, according to a number of recreation executives, comes through the recreation institutes offered by many recreation departments to which churches send representatives to learn games and other activities and become fitted for social recreation leadership in their churches. Eighty-five percent of the attendance at the first play institute held at Sheboygan, Wisconsin, was composed of delegates sent by the churches. There was enough

interest in social recreation for church groups in Columbus, Georgia, to justify the Department of Recreation in promoting an annual training institute for leaders in young people's groups. This institute was held each winter and ran for three nights, three hours per night. During this time the Department gave intensive instruction in the leadership of party games, both active and quiet, and lecture work in the proper planning of a well-rounded recreation program. The institute was so popular it became necessary to limit the training to two women and two men from each young people's union in their church. The course was sponsored by the city associations of the B. Y. P. U., the Christian Endeavor Society, Epworth League, and Young People's Service League.

The stimulation which training institutes gave church recreation in Waco, Texas, resulted in the employment by one of the churches of a recreation director, who is cooperating very closely with the Department of Recreation. The Philadelphia Playgrounds Association, in cooperation with Temple University, gave courses in recreation for church leaders. "I believe," says Charles H. English, Executive Secretary of the Association, "that any municipal recreation system can offer institute courses provided the invitation is sent to all churches of different denominations."

Oakland, California, is another city whose Recreation Department believes its great service to churches lies in the holding of recreation training institutes. "We feel," writes W. Robertson, Superintendent of Recreation, "that it is the place of the Recreation Department to guide and aid in training courses wherever possible, allowing Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., Jewish Community Centers, Knights of Columbus and similar organizations to come more closely in contact with the recreational work of the churches and give each individual group the opportunity of carrying on its own program."

PROGRAM PLANNING AND PICNIC KITS

Another channel of service to churches lies in help of program planning and in the provision of such facilities as picnic kits and song sheets.

June was selected by the Recreation Department of Sheboygan, Wisconsin, as the time for sending a letter to the church of the city offering assistance with programs and picnic kits. Later in the summer the Recreation Department acquired a movie camera and a projector, and these were

put at the disposal of the churches. This form of service is becoming very common.

SUGGESTIONS FOR ORGANIZATIONS

As for the procedure involved in working with churches, one executive suggests that the wise plan is to offer service from the headquarters of the Recreation Department to representatives of the church or Sunday school. The group may then be asked to appoint a special recreation committee responsible for all the church recreation. This committee should be composed of representatives from every department in the church and Sunday school. Where possible some of the membership of this committee may be made up of chairmen of the various recreation committees from these departments. One recreation executive follows the plan of meeting with the committees from each department and planning with them a three months' program. This program is submitted to the general committee and if it is approved, the dates of the activities are noted down and instances of duplication in the use of facilities may be eliminated immediately. Recreation departments may also be of assistance at the district conferences of young peoples' groups in directing recreation and mass singing.

Another recreation executive advocates the organization of leagues, general committees, federations and institutes consisting of representative groups from each church in the community. Any other form of a city-wide church recreation program in his opinion tends to detract from the various organized groups.

And cooperation between recreation departments and churches cannot fail to result in benefit to the recreation departments, as well as the churches in terms of friends made for the local movement, increased support and help in times of emergency when curtailment of budget or program threatens. It is the testimony of a number of recreation departments that the rallying of church groups has been largely responsible for the saving of the municipal recreation program.

Archery Progresses in Detroit

To add to the enjoyment of the Archery Clubs organized by the Recreation Department of Detroit, a number of novelties have been introduced into the practice. Animals, dolls, balloons and similar objects are sometimes used as movable targets. Animal targets constitute another novelty. The target faces are covered by the figures of a large bear and deer. The heart is the bullseye (nine points); the head (seven); the legs (five) and the body (three). One point is given for just grazing the animal.

The Department of Recreation has issued the following letter to be signed by parents of the boys belonging to the club:

"In establishing the Archery Club, the Department of Recreation is endeavoring to revive an interest in this age old sport. It should be understood, however, that the bow and arrow is a weapon and must be used with discretion. The first instruction the boy receives on entering the club is that he is dealing with a weapon, the careless handling of which may prove dangerous to some one. The manner in which he is to use it is clearly defined.

"The director in charge of the Archery Club is held accountable by the Department of Recreation for the welfare of all present. It is his duty to see that everything is done to insure their safety. Any one acting in such a manner as to endanger this safety must be dismissed from the Club.

"It is hereby understood and agreed upon that the City of Detroit shall not be held responsible for any accident occurring to any boy through disregard of the orders given for the boys' safety. In agreement with this statement the parents are asked to sign their names to this letter and return to the director of the Club.

"Yours in the interest of the boys,
G. TODD, Director of Archery,
J. J. CONSIDINE, Supervisor

"Having read the above statement I hereby agree to same.

Signed.....

In Between Season's Program*

By

W. T. REED,

Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, Muncie, Indiana

There seems to be a demand for activities for the so-called "in between seasons." The spring and fall seasons seem to be rather slow as far as outward appearances are concerned. Many executives welcome these slow seasons as it gives them a chance to plan bigger programs for summer and winter. Especially is this true in the smaller cities where the executive not only has to plan the program but direct the activities as well. I presume there are more communities working under this handicap than any other. It resolves itself into a financial problem and not a problem of lack of activities.

"Money makes the mare go" and I dare say that there would be no "in between seasons" if there were sufficient funds. A recreation executive is an unusually high type of individual; an individual of keen foresight and imagination. There are only a very few who cannot find enough activities for such seasons. It has been my experience in meeting and talking with various workers that many of the already well-planned and well thought out programs have to be curtailed owing to the lack of funds. Of course, the demand for money is not an unusual subject for discussion among playleaders.

There are many activities a community can carry on with a very small expenditure. The marble tournament can be carried on at very little expense; so can other tournaments such as jackstones, kite, hopscotch, stilts, tops, birdhouses and others. Quite often civic clubs, parent-teachers associations and other similar institutions are willing to sponsor activities in the spring and fall. In Muncie the Dynamo Club sponsors an Easter Egg Hunt and the Matinee Musical sponsors the Spring Musical Festival. Do you see any reason why these organizations should not sponsor these activities? Do you see any reason why a Kiwanis or Rotary Club should not sponsor a Hallowe'en program or hikes? I have found that these clubs are willing to do these things but they have to be

convinced of the value of the recreation movement as a whole. There is the job for the executive. Nor can he do it alone by talking. He must first prove the value to the community of his summer or winter program or both. Then these clubs are easily convinced.

During the fall of the year there is a big opportunity for pageants, including a community pageant, if you please. Then, too, hiking is very popular in the fall of the year. It doesn't cost much to organize several real hikes. I need not mention athletics. The public schools, Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. usually provide this type of program, especially where the recreation executive shows any inclination to cooperate. But should the schools, Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. and others fail to provide adequately for all children, then the Recreation Department has a real duty to perform. One does not expect every boy to play football on some team or other; but boys as a rule do like to kick and pass a football. Then why would not the department of recreation with very little expense, conduct a tournament for these boys? Girls as a rule like volley ball or hockey. Is there any reason why contests coming out of these games could not be arranged for girls? Girls are usually slighted when it comes to school athletics, especially from the intra-mural standpoint.

With a number of these activities under way, together with party plans, social gatherings, play institutes and festivals, the recreation worker will continually keep his program before the public in these "slow seasons."

So much good can come from cooperating with the schools. Not one opportunity should be lost. One naturally expects the schools to cooperate with the department of recreation. Why not reciprocate? Occasionally, there are many duplications where the school authorities and those in charge of recreation fail to cooperate with the result the recreation leader is always to blame. It is during our so-called "in between seasons"

*From Section Meeting, Recreation Congress, Memphis, Tenn.

that the schools need the most help from the recreation department.

Many and many a time have I profited by co-operating with school authorities. Only last spring a chorus of 1,500 school children sang one Sunday afternoon in one of our parks. We also had the high school band for two free concerts. Are not these activities worth a wee bit of cooperation?

Then, too, I would urge cooperation with the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and churches. Nothing will bring recreation closer to the community than such cooperation. It is during the fall and spring seasons that these organizations need the most help. The churches appreciate this help.

These fall and spring programs require more personal attention than either the summer or winter program for the same reason mentioned earlier in this paper—namely that smaller cities cannot afford the necessary leadership during these periods. Would that it were possible for each community to provide sufficient leadership for a real year-round program!

The Question Box

Question:

Our school desires to put on a community pageant about six weeks hence, showing the historical development of the community, or some phase of it.

Can you furnish some suggestions, plans or information which would aid us in this project? I thought you might have copies of a community pageant which could be rearranged and adapted to suit another local situation. Any assistance you can give us will be greatly appreciated.

Answer:

Most pageants of this kind consist of a prologue, episodes covering outstanding historical events in the development of the community and its civic progress, a number of interludes, and a closing ensemble. Occasionally a prophesy of the city's future is used in place of the latter. The prologue is usually a résumé of the pageant and is often spoken by a lawyer, a judge, or some other leading citizen who is accustomed to public speaking. As the prologue is dignified and sonorous, it lends itself easily to blank verse and is effective in this form. The historic portion of the pageant should follow the facts faithfully and the

details, such as dances, costumes, and properties, should be as authentic as possible. The interludes, of which there may be as many as the writer chooses, allow greater scope for the interpretive and the symbolic. They are high lights in the pageant and are spectacular and entertaining. Their purpose is to relieve the strictly historical episodes.

The finale is usually the ensemble in which the entire cast figures. Frequently the ensemble ends with the singing of patriotic songs as an appropriate closing. Following this, the cast leaves the stage in orderly fashion, never disbanding before the audience. The following outline will give you a more detailed description of the general form followed by most historical pageants.

SUGGESTED PAGEANT OUTLINE

Prologue

Part I. Historic Episodes

Indian Episode—depicting early contact with Indians. In some localities this will be a peaceful scene, in others famous Indian battles may be shown.

Colonial Episode

Revolutionary War

Interlude—symbolic dances

Civil War

Spanish-American War

World War

(If the city is near Lake Erie the War of 1812 would be used as an episode; if a Texas community, the Mexican War would play an important part in the historical portion of the pageant.)

Part II. Episodes of Progress

Educational

Religious

First church

First wedding

Industrial—fur trading, tobacco raising

Political—Famous men, speeches

Finale

Monroe, La., has a swimming pool which is filled by a flowing salt water well. Thousands from miles away come to this inland salt water swimming pool.

How Things May Enrich Life Is Recreation Congress Theme

FROM YOUR EXPERIENCE, WHAT CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE BEST TO THE ATLANTIC CITY DISCUSSIONS ON FACILITIES?

This year the six hundred or more delegates to the National Recreation Congress will turn their attention to material things—land and water areas, play equipment, buildings and recreation materials. Their object is to secure from these inanimate facilities greater creative and spiritual values for American life. Again the convention will meet at Atlantic City, October 1-6.

Each morning and afternoon the Congress will be divided into four sections, each of which will discuss a different problem. Some of the topics for group discussion are:

- Water—Its Part in Play and Recreation
- Plants, Shrubs, Trees, Gardens, Animals as Play and Recreation Material
- Handcraft Materials
- Play Materials for the Home
- Design and Construction—Play Areas—Buildings—Facilities
- The Place of Golf in Community Recreation
- Material Equipment for Physical Education in America
- What Children Consider Important in Play Equipment on the Playground
- Winter Sports Equipment
- Equipment for Various Kinds of Ball Games
- The Value of the Building as Neighborhood Center
- The Use of Play Areas and Facilities Outside the City Limits
- Planning the Church Building for the Recreation of Its Own People
- Planning the School Building for Recreation
- What Constitutes a Reasonable Recreation Equipment to Be Supported Out of Public Tax Moneys
- Special Needs of Rural Districts as to Play and Recreation Facilities.
- Picnic Grounds, City Forests, Botanical Gardens, Zoological Gardens, Museums, and Other Special Aids to Recreation
- Does Increase in Land and Material Equipment

for Recreation Tend Toward More Adequate Current Appropriation for Recreation Leadership?

Winter Sports Equipment

The Congress Committee asks each person who plans to attend the Congress to think about these topics beforehand and come prepared either to make a brief contribution to the discussion or to raise questions they may have on any subject. Those who have had experience can thus give to those who need information on a particular problem. The result promises to be a valuable strengthening of the recreation movement as a whole.

An innovation will be the meetings at eleven o'clock each morning, at which one person from each of the eight discussion groups of the day before will report to the entire Congress the results of the discussions and the conclusions reached. In this way every delegate will get a summary of the meetings he was not able to attend. The entire week's discussions will be summarized on Friday morning.

The experience of former Congresses shows that topics not scheduled for the program but of considerable popular interest often arise during the convention, also that delegates often want more time to discuss a particular subject that has been raised. Hence all of Thursday afternoon has been left free for delegates to organize special meetings.

The late afternoon classes that have proved so popular will be repeated. The topics for these special classes, which will be held from four to five o'clock on Tuesday, Wednesday and possibly Thursday, will be games, folk dancing, music, drama and handcraft. A number of experienced leaders will be available to answer questions and to give advice on problems in various fields of recreation.

Besides the boardwalk and other attractions of Atlantic City, the Congress will offer many special features of its own. On the opening evening there will be a play demonstration, all delegates participating. Music and drama will play their part in the entertainment program. Nationally

known speakers will appear at the meetings of an inspirational nature held each evening.

A high spot will be the awarding of Community Recreation Service Medals to those who have served in the community recreation field for ten, fifteen and twenty years. The finals of the National Playground Miniature Aircraft Tournament will be run off on Friday afternoon and Saturday. Model aircraft champions from local playground systems throughout the country will compete for junior and senior national championships. Officials prominent in aviation will be present.

He Remembered His Home Town

Forty-five miles north of Detroit, nestled in the hills near the little village of Dryden, is a beautiful country club known as the Dryden Community Country Club. It is probably the largest and most unusual country club in the world. As the Bulletin Board in the community house states, "This country club is believed to have the largest membership of any in the world because every one belongs to it. There are no initiation fees, dues or charges of any kind. Members will please leave the clubhouse and grounds as they found them."

Eighty years ago the site was an old mill dam. Ten years ago it was a dumping ground. Today it is one of the most beautiful spots in Michigan. It all came about because Major-General George O. Squier, caring for his old home and remembering the favorite swimming hole of his childhood, dedicated 200 acres of beautiful rolling country and forest to lovers of nature.

The old mill has been restored and made into a community house for small gatherings. The great log beams, the old mill stone and the original mill wheel have been carefully preserved. Everything has been done for the convenience and comfort for the members of the club. Beside the mill are baseball diamonds, tennis courts and croquet ground.

There is, too, Forest Hall, the community house of the club, which contains the spacious room where meetings and banquets are held and a kitchen with equipment to serve 100 guests. Last year 25,000 registered here and there were many more who did not leave their names. Of church, school, lodge and society picnics, there is at least

one every day all summer. So popular is the house that bookings are almost full a year ahead. There are two days set apart at Forest Hall; all others may be reserved by application. The grounds are opened to all at any time and Thursday is open day during July and August for community gatherings of the neighboring towns. On Sunday no reservations are given, but the grounds are open to those who wish to enjoy the peace of nature.

Still another place of interest is the space devoted to the Alden Hills Community Club. General Squier has furnished the athletic field and golf course, and built the club house.

There are no dues or charges and the country club is one place where it is impossible to spend money.

Japan Month by Month

By

CLARA BLATTNER

Through the summer months of July and August, there are many blossoms to delight the wayfarer. The iris gardens spread a many-colored carpet before one, with thatched-roofed tea houses perched on hills, to view the beauty of the colors. In July come through the morning-glories, when the sellers wander through the streets at dawn, calling "Asagao! Asagao!" ("Morning-face, Morning-face"). Small pots are carried on large flat trays suspended from a yoke, and the blossoms are enormous, and most exquisite in coloring.

To see the morning-glory gardens in their full perfection, you must visit them between three and five o'clock in the morning, "while the trees are still asleep," and when you go, stop for a glimpse of the sleeping lotus pools whose blossoms waken with an audible pop.

Japan is indeed the Land of Lotus Eaters—for the root of the plant is one of the staple vegetables—crisp and strange to foreign palates.

There is no more beautiful sight than a lotus pool in rain. The tall stems carry the bowl-shaped leaves with a gentle swaying, and the glaucous leaves collect the drops of rain into perfect silver balls. Then suddenly the leaf bends slightly—and the silver ball slips down into the pool, while the leaf rights itself quickly. So does a life slip quietly away to lose itself in the infinite and all is as before.

For Women and Girls

The Bureau of Recreation of the Chicago Board of Education, of which Herman J. Fischer is director, presents a varied program of activities for girls and women.

Inter-Playground Athletics

During May, June, July and August Playground efficiency tests are held, the events including 50 yard dash, 12 foot pole climb, running broad jump, indoor ball distance throw, and running high jump. Playground ball is the leading sport in the spring and early summer, followed in June by inter-playground contests for juniors under fifteen and seniors over fifteen.

Swimming is the popular sport in August and for juniors the events are 20 yard free style, 20 yard back stroke, 20 yard breast stroke, 40 yard free style and 40 yard breast stroke. (Swimmers are limited to two events). Volley ball league tournaments come in August and September, while in September are scheduled track and field events in three divisions—juniors under twelve; intermediates under fifteen and seniors fifteen years and over. In September, too, the volley ball tournament begins with district and city-wide competition. October sees the beginning of the field ball tournament for juniors and seniors with elimination by league, district and city-wide competition.

January and February are the months for the ice skating meet and the skating efficiency test.

March is the month for rope climbing in which teams of three (no age limit) compete in district meets. Events consist of five exercises in the single rope and five in the double.

April ushers in the roller skating tournament—in league and city-wide competition.

Special Activities

Of special activities there is a wide choice for all tests. If jackstones happen to be the particular hobby of Chicago girls, then May is a happy month. It is also the time of the low organization game contest and competition in five selected games with teams of eight each, is the order of the day.

June has been selected for the folk dance festival with group competition, twelve girls dancing

in each division of girls under twelve years and of girls over twelve. July introduces the sand-craft competition for children twelve years old and under who compete in pure modeling and modeling with accessories.

August is a busy time with the much anticipated Mardi Gras. There are horseshoe contests, too, for both junior and senior girls. The competition is district and city-wide in both singles and doubles.

There is no age limit in the apparatus contest held in the fall and early winter months. The requirement is that ten exercises, seven required, three optional, shall be done in perfect form. The ukulele contest for juniors and seniors in November calls for two required songs, one optional selected by each playground and one original from each playground. And in December checkers loom large with a straight elimination tournament on a district and city-wide basis. Hikes receive special emphasis in December, though they are held throughout the entire year. And toy making naturally becomes a popular form of handicraft during the Christmas month.

Rug making during January and February with an exhibit at the end of February occupies time which is not filled by ice and snow sports. There is the novel sled meet held in January for girls under ten and girls under twelve with such events as towing (one on a sled; one pulling); swimming race, push and coast and shuttle relay (team of seven).

In March comes the team checkers tournament. In April the O'Leary tournament for juniors under fifteen and seniors fifteen and over is an exciting event.

These are a few of the special events which the girls enjoy together. There are many more activities general in their scope, such as socials and parties, and the holiday and special day celebrations which feature every month.

Recently several cities have reported that the maximum salary they have been able to have allowed for play leadership during the summer months has been \$35 to \$50 per month, and the question is asked, "What can we do to educate our appropriating body to the necessity of higher salaries?"

Book Review

FOLKLORE AND FAIRY PLAYS. By Charles Buxton Going. Published by Walter Baker Company, Boston. Price, \$1.50

Few writers who turn to folklore for material have succeeded so well as Charles Going in catching the simple charm of old tales and giving us the spirit of the story as well as its substance. His dramatizations smack of old-world pride in the careful chronicling of ancient happenings that lend significance to every rill and by-way along the countryside.

From such sources as the Basque ballad, "Benito Zubiri," relating the adventures of a daring mountain brigand, and the Breton tales of moor elves and faerie enchantment he has taken his themes and deftly shaped them into ten perfect little dramas. It is evident, moreover, that their charming naivete and innate sophistication come from studious research and a thorough understanding of genre rather than from an attempt to popularize. They are not children's plays but belong rather to the Little Theatre, the drama club, or senior high school interested in productions of unusual artistic merit.

A background of plain hangings would be appropriate for a number of the plays and for the majority, the simplest of settings.

NEW PLAYS FOR EVERY DAY THE SCHOOLS CELEBRATE, by Minnie A. Niemeier. Published by Noble and Noble. Price, \$2.00

Miss Niemeier, assistant principal in a New York City school, has prepared these plays for elementary work. They have all been tested and found easy to produce, pleasing to the children, and popular with the audience. The limitations of school performances have been considered and the little plays are so simple that impromptu dramatizations may easily be given. While the historical plays all deal with familiar episodes, the author has tried to give the children the little triumphs and discouragements that were met with in bringing the government into being and to make American history and government a vital thing to them. The significance of such celebrations as New Year's Day, Arbor Day, and Labor Day is taught in an original and entertaining manner. This is a useful book for the grade school teacher.

NEW DIALOGUES AND PLAYS, by Binney Gunnison. Published by Noble and Noble. Price, \$2.50

We recommend this book for all the hundred and one occasions when a short entertainment using only a few characters is needed. The dialogues, adapted from the popular works of well-known authors, include both humorous and serious types and have distinct educational value. The book offers delightful possibilities for a miscellany of scenes from such writers as Shakespeare, Victor Hugo, Charles Dickens, Mark Twain, Oliver Goldsmith, George Eliot, Tennyson, Stevenson, and others of note. This material should be especially fine for high school assembly.

SONGS OF THE OPEN. Words and music by Grace Keir. Illustrations by Robert Bruce Horsfall. Carl Fischer, Inc., Cooper Square, New York. Price, \$1.50

The nature songs in this volume are scientific and are meant to teach interesting facts about nature. They tell true stories about animals, birds, trees, flowers, insects and other creatures. The book also contains a nature pageant called "The Growth of Columbine," simple enough to be done by young children.

AN ILLUSTRATED DICTIONARY OF MODERN MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS. By Welford D. Clark. Published by Hall & McCreary Company. Price, \$.25 in single copies

The purpose of this dictionary is to acquaint the music student and music lover with the appearance, range, tone quality and use of the more common types of musical

instruments. It illustrates most of them, tells how they produce tones and in the case of symphony orchestra instruments, states how many of each type are used. Diagrams are given showing seating plans for orchestra and band, and charts suggesting effective combinations of instruments according to the number of players. The glossary of the more common musical terms and symbols is of practical value.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION. Physical Education Series No. 9. Published by the U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. Price, \$.05.

In 1925 a conference of institutions giving professional training in physical education was arranged by the Bureau of Education. At this conference the objectives of physical education, entrance requirements, the curriculum and similar subjects were discussed. Committees were appointed to consider the material submitted and to report at a future meeting. The second conference of these institutions, also arranged by the Bureau, was held in Washington on March 30, 1927. Forty schools were represented and four state directors were present. The reports of the various committees appointed were given. These included reports of committees on objectives, on entrance requirements, on a three-year curriculum for a normal school of physical education, and for a four-year curriculum for men. A number of papers on allied subjects were given. The papers read at the conference and the discussion, in condensed form, appear in the pamphlet.

THE MODERN DANCE AND CHURCH RECREATION

The problem of the modern dance is squarely and frankly faced in the spring issue of *The Kit* (No. 14), known as the "Dance Number." The question of dancing, the reason for the popularity of the dance, different kinds of dances, the typical modern dance and arguments for church dances are presented in Part I. Is modern dancing recreation? is one of the questions discussed, as the dance is scrutinized in the light of recognized recreational standards.

A second section deals with rhythmic materials and a number of folk dances are given, with music. A third section quotes experiences and opinions, both pro and con.

In conclusion the editors plead for a program of recreation as a substitution for the modern dance.

"The legitimate appeals of the modern dance can be met through more desirable rhythmic and social mediums. It is frankly understood that any permanent substitute for the modern dance will take more effort, more time, more leadership than is required to promote dances. It means a comprehensive, efficiently directed, well equipped, year-around program of social recreation, but the results will amply justify its cost. The recreational program itself is to be considered an integral part of the total work of the church. The effectiveness of the educational function, the challenge to service which the church provides, and the vision of higher living which its devotional and worship functions furnish are the ultimate and adequate substitute for a poor, defective, degenerate modern dance."

Copies of this issue of *The Kit* may be secured from the Church Recreation Service, 510 Wellington Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, price, \$.40.

A HANDBOOK OF STUNTS. By Martin Rodgers, M.A. Published by The Macmillan Company, New York City. Price, \$3.00

Many schools are still suffering from the handicap of inadequate play space. This book offers a program of stunts and self-testing activities organized on the rotating squad plan, devised to meet this limitation. The instructor who has been at a loss to discover activities suitable for the large class in a small area should find material in this book to meet his needs. There are suggestions for principles and organizations of physical education, for individual stunts, combat stunts, stunt



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games and races, apparatus stunts, mat, agility and tumbling movements, athletics, pyramids and miscellaneous self-testing activities.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHING MANUAL. By Frederick William Maroney, M.D. Published by Lyons and Carnahan, New York City. Price, \$2.00.

This course of study, with lesson outlines planned for particular grade needs and arranged according to months, is designed to meet the needs of normal school students, teachers and supervisors. The material, while definite in trend, offers opportunities for personal initiative and choice in the selection of exercises, games and athletic activities. The manual is definite and practical and should be very helpful.

BOYS: THEIR ENVIRONMENT AND THEIR NEEDS. Published by International Boys' Work Council, 244 William Street, New York City. Free to members.

The proceedings of the Fourth International Boys' Work Council held in Chicago, November 28-30, 1927, will be found in this volume.

Two hundred leaders in boys' work came together at the first annual conference, held in 1924. There were 608 delegates in attendance at the Chicago meeting in April at which a permanent all-year council came into being. "The happy combination of business men and leaders of boys in conference on the boy and his problems is the harbinger of new times, and the proceedings of such a conference must compel the interest of forward-looking men, particularly at a time when the world is thinking in terms of youth as it has never thought before."

WHAT A MAN CAN DO FOR A BOY. Prepared for use in the U. S. A. by the Committee Service and Boys' Work Committee and Rotary International, Chicago, Illinois.

This little manual of suggestions is intended for the individual Rotarian who is interested in boys' work. It suggests by month the various things a man can do for his own boy or for some one else's boy or both. The booklet is full of practical suggestions which will be helpful to every father as well as every Rotarian interested in boys' work.

THE FATHER OF WATERS, A Cantata for Mixed Voices. By Nelle Richmond Eberhart. Music by Charles Wakefield Cadman. Published by Oliver Ditson Company, Boston, Mass. Price, \$1.00

Some of the early history of our country and bits of Indian lore have been delightfully set to music in this cantata. There are a number of soprano, tenor and baritone solos. The time of performance is about an hour.

BABY BUNTING, An Operetta for Children. By Alice L. McCord. Music by Charlotte F. Furey. Published by Oliver Ditson Company, Boston, Mass. Price, \$.50.

This play can be easily presented by children who have had the usual school training in music. It has the advantage of requiring but one scene, no change of costume and but four principal characters, father, mother, brother and sister. There is a chorus of fairies (girls) and brownies (boys). The scenery—a garden scene—may be simply managed with green covering upon the floor to represent grass, and large plants or bushes in tubs placed about the stage. Group dancing may be effectively introduced.

THE LONE GIRL SCOUT ADVENTURER. Published by Girl Scouts, Inc., 670 Lexington Avenue, New York. Price, \$.35.

Here are suggestions for the Lone Girl Scout Adventurer most interestingly phrased. A very readable little guide book is this manual.

RURAL LIBRARIES. Farmers' Bulletin No. 1559. U. S.



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Department of Agriculture, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. Price, \$.10.

The growth of rural libraries, the various types provided with specific examples, their service to farmer readers, and many other facts about this vital institution are given in this pamphlet.

WHAT MOTION PICTURES FOR CHILDREN? Publishers, Children, The Magazine for Parents, 353 Fourth Avenue, New York.

In this little pamphlet recently issued by *Children*, suggestions are offered for judging motion pictures for children, for presenting the desirable pictures at junior matinees or Saturday morning performances, and at family night programs. Methods of securing exhibitor cooperation are outlined.

HOW TO DECORATE HALLS, BOOTHS AND AUTOMOBILES. Published by Dennison Manufacturing Company, New York City. Price, \$.10

A section of this booklet of special interest to recreation workers is that dealing with decorated doll and baby carriages. This will be found suggestive for groups arranging for doll parades and shows.

"HANDY" FOR SOCIAL RECREATION. Published by Church Recreation Service, 510 Wellington Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. Price, \$2.75

A most attractive and useful book is this latest edition

of "Handy" which is known as the "library edition." For those who may not be familiar with this practical and helpful publication of the Church Recreation Service it will be of interest to know that there are twelve sections. A—*Guide Posts to Social Recreation*; B—*Preparations for Social Recreation*; C—*Leadership for Social Recreation*; D—*Social Recreation Program Planning*; F—*Social Recreation Out-of-Doors*; G—*Mixing Games for Social Recreation*; H—*Active Games for Social Recreation*; K—*Quiet Games for Social Recreation*; M—*Mental Games for Social Recreation*; Q—*Dramatic Stunts for Social Recreation*; S—*Songs and Tunes for Social Singing* and W—*Reference Sources for Social Recreation*.

BUILDING AND FLYING MODEL AIRCRAFT

This book has been prepared as the official source of information for those interested in the fascinating sport of building and flying model aircraft. Boys and girls as well as recreation workers, teachers, scout leaders, camp directors and local tournament committees will find this book invaluable.

It contains the results of 15 years experience of the author, Paul Edward Garber, Assistant Curator of Engineering in charge of Aeronautics, Smithsonian Institution; the results of the experience of the 1927 National Playground Miniature Aircraft Tournament; also many suggestions from recreation workers and others interested in model aircraft.

It contains 300 pages, 198 illustrations, detailed plans and instructions for building different types of models; sources of materials; information on organizing clubs and conducting contests.

If your dealer can't supply you, sent postpaid for \$2.25. P. R. A. A., 315 4th Ave.

TENNIS ANNUAL, 1928. Spalding's Athletic Library No. 57x. Published by the American Sports Publishing Company, 45 Rose Street, New York. Price, \$.35

All the information of interest to the tennis enthusiast is to be found in this book. Championship rankings and tournaments are listed, and there are directions for laying out a court, suggestions for tournaments and rules of lawn tennis, cases and decisions.

RULES BOOKLETS

A booklet containing rules for baseball, diamond ball, lawn tennis and speed ball has been issued by the P. Goldsmith Sons Company, Cincinnati, Ohio. It may be secured free of charge. A small pamphlet containing Official National Rules of Diamond Ball may be secured from Reinhard Brothers Company of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Minot, North Dakota and Aberdeen, South Dakota.

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